

# THE CALCUTTA JOURNAL.

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### SUMMARY OF NEWS.

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#### Politics of Europe.

**Colonial Expenditure.**—The system adopted by Ministers in their administration of our colonial expenditure was brought on Friday (July 5) under the notice of Parliament, and ably exposed by Mr. Hume. There is no more fitting season than the present, at which to rouse the public vigilance to abuses in the management of our distant colonies, since a check—and we trust the commencement of a series of checks to the growth of prodigality nearer home—has just begun to be applied, by the activity and fortitude of a few of our persevering representatives, by the intolerable distresses, and by the loud and peremptory demands of the people of England, with which Ministers are already taught that it may be troublesome, if not dangerous, for them to play fast and loose much longer. A powerful expression seems to have been given to this spirit of examination into distant abuses, in the debate to which we have alluded. It is a perverse truth, that this country, which has prosecuted the colonial system with more zeal than any other, and which has appeared to make the acquisition of colonies a more vital principle of her whole political career, should likewise be that country of all others which has sacrificed with lavish folly the benefits derivable from the system which she has so energetically pursued. On one hand, she has given up every thing for colonies; on the other, every thing for the sake of which colonies ought to be desired. Those possessions which, under the sovereignty of the powers from whom we took them, were sources of revenue and relief to the parent state, to England, by the corruption of her Executive Government, are instantly made engines of expense and privation to the people. Spain, under all the absurdities of her general politics, drew vast sums of money from her colonial possessions. Portugal was, to use a familiar phrase, kept above water by the Brazils. The Cape of Good Hope furnishes a tolerable contrast between the practical wisdom of Holland and Great Britain, in their management of colonial finance. When the Cape fell into our hands, the whole salary of the Governor and Commander-in-Chief was 1,110*l.* Now it is 10,000*l.*, besides the allowances and establishments for country houses, &c., for the Governor. Then the colonies cannot correspond, as we are told, with the office of the Colonial Secretary—himself a modern exercise upon the State—they must have each a kind friend at Court, called an agent, and this agent a seat in Parliament. Again there are eight officers of known efficiency in that model of good Government the Ionian Isles—eight inspecting field officers of a militia which does not exist! Mr. Hume levelled his first direct fire at the pluralists called colonial agents, and at these officers of a non-existing militia; but the agents were defended by an Under Secretary of State, because of the "serious and important" duties of which, if they performed, they must have disencumbered some other public officers; and the militia-men were to be retained by reason that although there was in fact no militia duty whatever to be performed, yet they had duties of another description—we presume the writing receipts for their salaries. The motion for the reduction of these two classes was rejected by a majority of just 3 to 2; but the motion was not lost upon the country—no, nor on the Ministers themselves; it brought out some profitable discoveries: one was, that the revenue raised in four colonies—Ceylon, the Mauritius, Malta, and the Cape—amounts to near

600,000*l.*, even in the depreciated currency, all of which is disposable by order of the King in Council in concurrence with the Colonial Governors, and without the previous approbation or control of Parliament. What a never failing fountain is here of the "just and necessary influence!"

**London, July 8, 1823.**—We have received the French papers of Thursday and Friday, which furnish nothing of much interest. The *JOURNAL DES DEBATS* contains a letter from Vienna, dated the 23d ult., in which it is stated that the continued barbarities and cruelties of the Turks against their Christian subjects can no longer be called in question, as wretched victims are daily arriving in Austria from the scenes of massacre and desolation. On the 19th ultimo, 150 fugitives, principally women and children, landed at Trieste, who gave an overwhelming picture of the barbarities perpetrated at Scio. The news respecting Spain is contained in a letter from Pampeluna, dated the 26th ult., in the ultra journals, and states that Lopez Bano had arrived on that day at Villava, at the head of 700 infantry, and more than 100 cavalry; that General Quesada commanded the party of insurgents, and that the latter wished to avoid coming to an engagement by proceeding among the line of the Pyrenees. His party is stated to be 1,500 strong, and to have been posted, when the last account came away, in the valley of Ronoul. General Lopez Bano had addressed, from Villava, about three leagues from Pampeluna, a spirited Proclamation, addressed to the people of Navarre, calling upon them to disperse a handful of insurgents who had abjured their country, who has raised the standard of rebellion, and who had called foreigners to their aid against their fellow subjects. The General, for the purpose of inducing the inhabitants of Navarre to take active measures against their new enemies, states, that this is the third time in which he has been among them, and the third time in which he has defeated the same party, who endeavoured to plunge the country in desolation and confusion.

The Chamber of Deputies is still proceeding with the discussion on the law of finance, but nothing said in that assembly on the Wednesday or Thursday deserves any particular notice.

**French Funds, Thursday.**—5 per cent. 91*l.* 50*s.*

**Neapolitan, 5 per cents, 70*l.***

**Exchange on London, 1 month, 25*l.* 50*s.*; 3 months, 25*l.* 30*s.***

Madrid papers to the 25th ult. arrived last night through the usual channel, but the intelligence they contain was anticipated in our paper of Thursday last.

**Exeter, July 5.**—The Marquis and Marchioness of Tavistock, accompanied by Lord John Russell, arrived on Wednesday at Exeter, to see their noble parent.

The **PRINCE LEOPOLD**, of 180 tons, is now loading in the river with cannon, muskets, shells, ball, powder, and every implement of war, by order of the agent of the Pasha of Egypt, and is bound direct for Alexandria.

His Majesty's yacht the **ROYAL GEORGE** has been ordered to be ready for his Majesty's reception on the 25th inst. We understand she can go out of harbour on Tuesday next, if necessary. The Hon. Sir Charles Paget, and officers of the **APOLLO** yacht (which is in the basin, in an ordinary course of equipment), will attend his Majesty in the **ROYAL GEORGE** yacht for this season. —*Hampshire Telegraph.*

## Central Parts of Asia.

*Notices of certain Tribes and Countries in the Central Part of Asia. By Philip Nazarov. Interpreter to the Siberian Corps employed on an Expedition to Kokand in the Years 1812 and 1814. St. Petersburg.*

FROM THE QUARTERLY REVIEW, No. LIII., JUST RECEIVED.

This is the Expedition to which we alluded in a former Number,\* and we then stated that an account of it was preparing for the press at the expense of that distinguished patron of science and discovery in Russia, the Count Romanoff. By his kindness, we have been favoured with a copy of the narrative, an outline of which we hasten to lay before our readers; for though it has failed to answer our expectations as far as regards the geography and natural history of this interesting part of Asia, the seat and centre of the barbarian grandeur of the Sultan Timour and also of his predecessor Gengis-Khan, yet it affords some little insight into the strength and character of the hordes of Tartars who now roam over a small but favourite portion of that once magnificent and boundless empire. The information which it contains, however, is so scanty, that had it been conveyed in any language more accessible to our countrymen, than the Russian, we should probably not have thought it worthy of a separate Article; as preparatory, however, to something more circumstantial relating to the same quarter, a few pages may not, perhaps, be considered as superfluous.

As Mr. Nazarov has not accompanied his route with any chart, nor given a single latitude or longitude, and as his Russian orthography differs very much from the names on our maps, it is no easy matter to follow him; we collect, however, from his narrative that the present Sultan, or Amir, as he is here styled, of Kokand, is a pugacious personage of the name of Valliam, who, though little more than twenty-five years of age, has already brought under his subjection the tribes of Tartars dispersed over those vast plains known to the Arabs by the name of Mawn el-nahar, and containing the once celebrated cities of Bokhara, Balk and Samarcand, a tract of country so fertile and beautiful as to have been pronounced by Abulfata 'the most delightful of all places which God had created.' This central part of Asia is circumscribed on the north by Altaydim Zano mountains, (the rampart of the mythological Gog and Magog,) on the west by the Belur Tag, on the south by the Hindoo Koo, and Pamar Mountains, and on the east by the River Jihon and the Sea of Aral; comprehending all those populous tribes of Tartars known by the name of Kirghis, with the exception of one branch whose hordes occupy the country lying between the Caspian and the Aral; and they too, we have reason to believe, have recently submitted to the yoke of the conqueror.

The occasion of the present mission is thus stated. A deputation had been sent in 1812 from the Sultan or Khan of Kokania to the court of Petersburg, which, on its return, halted at the fortress of Petropavlovsk (marked St. Peter on the charts) on the river Ishim, and close to the northern edge of the Steppe of that name. Here the principal persons caught a fever and died; the next in rank was a most depraved character, and frequented the company of profligate women, in whose society he formed an acquaintance with an exile Russian soldier. This man, with the view of getting possession of the Tartar's money, enticed him one day to the Ishim to bathe, and, availing himself of the opportunity, murdered him and flung his body into the river. These untoward circumstances induced the Russian commandant of the fortress to accompany the remaining part of the deputation with an escort, in order to obviate any unfavourable interpretation that might be put by the Khan on the unfortunate end of his two envoys.

Being well acquainted with the language of the Kokans, M. Nazarov volunteered his services, and was accordingly dispatched by the commandant in May 1813, with credentials and presents, in the name of the emperor, under the protection of a party of Cossacks; and at the same time an opportunity was taken of sending a caravan, or company of traders, to endeavour to open a commercial communication with the people. Having crossed the Steppe of Ishim, Nazarov entered upon the possessions of the northern Kirghis, of whom he gives some little account. He describes them as consisting of three hordes, over each of which is a Khan; each horde is divided into other portions, over each of which is a sultann; and these again are subdivided into separate companies placed each under the control of a bia or elder. Both the general government and that of the hordes are exceedingly despotic: their religion is that of Mahomet, and their laws are founded on the precepts of the Koran.

The Kirghis are excellent horsemen; even children of four or five years of age manage a horse with great dexterity, and the women are not less expert than the men. Their horses are of the Arabian breed, fifteen or sixteen hands high, and in their predatory excursions will hold out for several days at the rate of a hundred miles a day. The hordes are honest, and faithful to their word among themselves; but bold in no stuff of the conscience to plunder their neighbours. Nightly forays to drive off cattle are very common, and women, on such occasions,

armed with clubs and lances, take an active share in any combat that may ensue on the men.

Marriages are contracted by the parents while the parties are infants; and such contracts are held sacred. At the marriageable age, which is very early, the young people have free access to each other. They have a tent set apart from the rest of the horde, to which the bride is brought every night for a fortnight before the marriage ceremony is performed, and left alone with the bridegroom; but such, says M. Nazarov, 'is the native modesty implanted in the breasts of these savages, (they are very far from being savages,) that no indecency or improper liberty is ever taken by the man.' On the day appointed for the nuptials, the relations meet, the mullah receives the declaration of the parties, unites their hands, and invokes a blessing and a numerous offspring; barrenness being, in their estimation, little short of disgrace.

M. Nazarov and his party halted at a place called Tur-Aigrah, in Turkistan, near which was a lake about thirty miles in circumference named Ketekebi-Tchurber. On a sloping bank of this lake they observed an extensive burying-ground, containing a multitude of square wooden tombs, some marked with spears as a memorial of the good horsemanship of the deceased, and others with the figures of hawks as a testimony of their skill in fowling. To this burying-ground the rich Tartars bring their deceased relations from every part of the Kirghis territory. In the winter months, when the country is covered with snow and no food is to be had for their cattle, they suspend the bodies, swaddled in thick felt, from branches of trees, and in the spring collect and carry them to the sanctified cemetery. 'Crossing the deserts of Tartary,' says M. Nazarov, 'in the winter months, one frequently meets with these dismal objects covered with hear-frost, and dangling in all directions, to the chilling blast.'

The borders of this lake are the resort of various wandering tribes, who barter their horses, camels and sheep with the caravans, for clothing and other articles of necessity and luxury. While M. Nazarov halted at this spot, one of the horde was condemned to suffer death. A halter was immediately thrown round the neck of the culprit, the end of which was fastened to the tail of a horse which, being mounted by a Tartar, set off at full speed, and continued galloping round the encampment till the life of the criminal was terminated. 'Having inquired into the cause of so execrable and dreadful a punishment, I was surprised (he says) to learn that the sufferer's offence was that of stealing two sheep, whilst those who condemned him were at the very moment, under pretence of private quarrels with the neighbouring tribes, lifting whole herds of cattle, and exacting ransom for their restitution.'

The farther they advanced through Turkistan, now a part of Kokania, the more fixed the population appeared; the tents of the Tartars were exchanged for houses of stone, and fields cultivated with grain, among which towns and villages were interspersed, were seen on all sides. Every thing wore the appearance of improved civilisation. They had now reached the territory of Tashkend, which is watered by the Sar and its numerous branches. The Khan sent his officers to demand the usual duties from the caravan, inviting them at the same time, in the most friendly manner, into the town of that name. He advised M. Nazarov to proceed with his Cossacks alone to Kokand; not succeeding in this, he detained the caravan with a part of the Cossacks, at Tashkend, but graciously permitted the mission to set forward with the remainder of the escort, (about 30,) which they did, without guides, trusting to the local knowledge of the Kokanders whom they had brought with them from Russia.

With the utmost difficulty they crossed the river Tchirtchik, on account of the rapidity of the stream and the large stones which it rolled down with it. This is one of the numerous torrents which fall from the lofty mountain named Kindertan, a prolongation of the Belour Tag, and which swell the Sar, or Sinou. M. Nazarov says that the roaring of this turbulent stream may be heard at the distance of fifteen versts, and that it is so tremendous that even the beasts of prey dare not approach it. The valleys of this range of mountains are inhabited, it appears, by little hordes of savage and uncivilized Persians of the East, who are named the Men of the Mountains.

In perusing this part of M. Nazarov's narrative, we were perpetually reminded of Sir John Maundeville's river of running rocks and lakes of sand, an account of which he may have met with in some oriental traveller whose wondrous stories have not reached our times; and the valleys of Kindertan, which M. Nazarov calls 'a prodigiously high mountain,' may yet contain the descendants of the 'Old Man of the Mountain,' who, with his assassins, spread terror from the Hindoo Coosh to Mount Lebanon. Lawless robbers are still found in all the mountainous regions of Asia; but being more divided are consequently less formidable than the Ishmaelites of former times, who were destroyed by the Moguls.

Proceeding southerly, the mission passed the Kh-jand and the Sar-Daris, and arrived at the city of Kokand, the capital of Kokania, situated in the centre of those interminable plains, where Gengis-Khan was in the habit of assembling a general council of all the khans, governors, and military chiefs of his extensive empire, and where, we are told, were once assembled 600 ambassadors from the conquered countries



only. It was here too that the magnificent feast was given by Timour on the marriage of six of his grandsons; where according to Gibbon, following the statement of Shereffedden, "the plain was spread with pyramids of meat and vases of every kind of liquor, to which thousands of guests were courteously invited;" where "pearls and rubies were showered on the heads of the bridegrooms and their brides, and contemptuously abandoned to their attendants;" where "a general indulgence was proclaimed, every law was relaxed, every pleasure was allowed, the people was free, the sovereign was idle;"—and where, we may add, on the authority of Clavijo, who was present as ambassador from Henry III. of Castile, the nine queens of Tamerlane caroused wine, handed to them by pages as their knee, in golden cups, till, in the courtly language of Harlequin, they became *foe, and concussions passed the carriers*.

On arriving at the gates of Kokand, the Cossacks dressed themselves in full uniform, and the whole cavalcade entered the city, marched past the palace, and were lodged in a garden with one small pavilion in it. Two tents were immediately pitched for the Cossacks, and one for M. Nazarov and his companion Benigikoff; the Kokanders were taken away, and a guard of fifteen men placed over the Russians, with orders not to suffer them to leave the garden.

During the night they had a visit from the vizier, who demanded what their object was in coming into Kokand. They replied, to bring home the Kokanders; to explain the unfortunate circumstances of the death of the two envoys; and to open a commercial intercourse with the country. The vizier then told them that provisions for themselves and their cattle would be daily sent to them, and without further explanation departed. The garden, while the Europeans were confined there, was crowded with spectators, who stood gazing at them from morning till night. This continued for eleven days, when the hour was announced for delivering their credentials and presents to the Khan. This short period of confinement showed the quantum of respect deemed necessary for the Russians, the time of delay being in the ratio of the rank and estimation in which envoys are held. When Clavijo and his companions arrived at Samarcand to pay their duty in Tamerlane, they also were lodged in a garden, and kept there as prisoners for eight days; on complaining of this treatment, they were told that Timour always made some delay in admitting ambassadors to his presence, and that the length of time was in proportion to the regard with which he viewed them; a custom it would seem which the Arabs have carried into Africa; for when Doctor Doehard had in vain solicited, for two years, permission to proceed from Bamamkoo on the Niger to pay his compliments to the king of Sego, the sultan monarch spoiled his impatience by letting him know that the longer he delayed seeing him, the greater was his respect and affection; and that he had no occasion to fret himself, as a black ambassador, with a present of horses, had already been waiting there three years.

The distance of the garden from the palace of the Khan was about fifteen versts, the whole of which was lined with cavalry. The two Russian envoys mounted their horses, but the Cossacks, four of whom, attended by a corporal, carried the box which contained the imperial presents and credentials, marched on foot, in two columns. Before they reached the outer wall of the palace M. Nazarov and his friend were ordered to dismount, and were detained about half an hour, when the gate was opened, and the former alone was conducted through a court-yard, at the extremity of which the Khan was pointed out to him at a window. In proceeding towards the august presence, he was told that he must pay the same marks of respect as were observed towards his own sovereign; upon which he took off his hat, made a bow, and put it on again. The Khan was seated on a lofty throne placed on an elevated platform covered with carpets, and on each side of him were ranged the viziers and principal grandees of the court. M. Nazarov was directed to place his credentials on his head, and holding them with both hands, a common ceremony in the east, dictated probably by precaution, was conducted to the foot of the throne. Here he was ordered to fall upon one knee, when the Khan took the credentials from his head and gave them to one of his viziers; he then stretched out his hand, which M. Nazarov took in both his, after which he was led by two of the ministers to the door, keeping his face towards the throne. There were present on this solemn occasion ambassadors of China, Bucharia, and from the various surrounding petty states; for all of whom a dinner was prepared, consisting of coloured rice and horse flesh; and this being finished, the Russians returned in procession to their garden.

Soon after this interview, it was announced by the secretary of the Khan that the detachment would be sent back to Russia in the course of three days, but that M. Nazarov must remain there till the following spring, when the caravan and certain deputies would be dispatched by the Khan to inquire more particularly into the real cause of the death of his ambassadors. M. Nazarov now began to suspect that he was a prisoner, and in a few days he was, in fact, removed from the garden and lodged, with his corporal and four Cossacks, in the castle of the governor, with a guard over him. Here he remained twelve days, at the end of which he was brought before the great men of the court, and asked what com-

pensation he meant to offer for the murder of the Khan's ambassadors? If our envoy was somewhat startled by such an abrupt interrogatory, he was not much relieved when he was peremptorily informed that three alternatives would be submitted to him—to pay the money demanded by the relations of the deceased—embrace the religion of Mohomet—or be suspended on a gibbet, to which they at the same time pointed. "I replied then," says M. Nazarov,—"to pay an adequate sum of money is totally out of my power; to betray my faith and my sovereign I am not prepared; and as to death, I am not afraid to meet it, well knowing that my sovereign will amply avenge any insult that may be offered to my person." "Finding," he adds, "that I boldly replied to their questions, I was ordered back to my prison; and from this moment the governor of the castle treated me with the greatest kindness; but he apprised me shortly after that the Khan had determined to send me into exile."

Accordingly an invitation was one day brought for M. Nazarov to attend the Khan on a hunting party to a place called Margland, about 250 versts from Kokand for this purpose. Two carriages were prepared to transport him and his Cossacks, accompanied by a Khorgia officer and two drivers. Having passed a great number of villages, they entered upon an extensive desert. "Conceiving it a good opportunity to come to some explanation with the officer," I rushed upon him," says M. Nazarov, "with a drawn sabre, and bade him, if he regarded his life, to tell me where he was ordered to convey us." He answered trembling that he had secret orders to convey us to the fortress of Jarmam, on the Persian frontier; but that, if I preferred it, he would take us to Margland, distant about 80 versts. M. Nazarov preferred the latter, and in two days they arrived at that place, where lodgings were ordered for them by the governor, who behaved with great kindness. Here they were kept for three months, when by the intercession of the vice-Khan they obtained permission to return by a very pleasant and populous route to Kokand, whence they were dispatched to Tashkunt, where the deputies of the Khan to the Emperor of Russia joined them.

The result of this second mission to Petersburg, was a determination of the Emperor Alexander to follow it up by a splendid embassy to Bucharia, as we have already mentioned.

This embassy, we understand, reached Bucharia the end of December, 1820, after suffering considerable hardships from cold and want of water, in crossing the great desert which borders the Kerghis Tartar country to the northward, and which occupied them seventy-two days. It returned, *re infecta*, in March, 1821; but the party composing it were delighted with the people and the country, notwithstanding the jealousy of the governing powers. They describe the plains of Samarcand as beautiful and well cultivated; and Velliam's dominions as containing about three millions of inhabitants. This young conqueror appears to be eagerly and rapidly adding to his dominions; and though the state of the East is widely different from what it was in the days of Timour, and such as to check his career on every side, yet he may succeed in erecting a very considerable empire, from the shores of the Caspian to the confines of China Proper, and from the frontier of Russia to the Hindoo Coast and the Himalaya; which like all those that have gone before him, where every thing depends of the personal character of the sovereign, will, in all probability, again fall to pieces on his demise.

#### NINE ATTORNIES ON THEIR JOURNIES.

Nine Bucks, Attornies, Lawyers called in common,  
Riding the Circuit, all in splendour gay,  
Summon'd a Barber—one that yields to no man,  
In dressing heads for Op'ra, Ball, or Play,  
Just at the time a Wag, on witchief bent,  
Powder or Laws into his box convey'd,  
Seeing that these sprigs of law were all intent  
On having "noddies" done as Judges made;  
Worm was the day—sweet evening came anon,  
The stream of London now inviting glide—  
"Suppose this sultry eve we bathe," said one;  
"Suppose we do," the other eight reply'd.  
Behold they plunge! now rising—what a scene!  
Each look'd and laugh'd, not knowing what was done,  
Some curs'd the Barber—come the water, keep,  
But all exclaim'd, "For TAYLOR'S BEARD'S GRACE" FOR."  
And but for it, each now would have a bald head,  
Bald as a grunter's back that's newly scalded.

\* Sold upon oath, from 1s. to 10s. at one house only on the surface of the globe, viz. 66, Whitechapel, which is so well known that a child will direct to it.—Pence £1 10s.—Patent £3 10s.—Scalp 10s. 6d.—and Six-pence only for Hair-cutting in the first style of fashion, never refusing One Shilling.

N. B.—Wanted to Purchase, several full or half-grown Russian Bears, for which a fair price will be given.

## Imperial Parliament.

## HOUSE OF LORDS, MONDAY, JULY 8, 1822.

The Marquis of HERTFORD took the oaths and his seat.

A person from the Treasury presented accounts of the number of ounces of gold bullion exported and imported within (we believe) two years.

Lord EGREMONT presented a petition from the land owners of two parishes in Sussex against the corn bill.

The following bills were brought up from the Commons, and read a first time:—The Scotch Register office bill, the Irish prison laws' bill, the small notes' bill, the Westmorland county rates' bill, and the new churches' bill.

## CORN BILL.

On the motion of Lord BATHURST, the third reading of this bill was, owing to the continued indisposition of the Earl of Llangat, postponed to Wednesday.

Lord ROSSLYN fixed the second reading of the Scotch juries' bill for Thursday.

The Earl of LIMERICK presented petitions from several clerks of the Crown in Limerick, Lincaster, and Connaught, against the Irish grand jury presentments' bill.—Laid on the table.

The Irish land revenue bill was read a third time and passed.

The five per cent. contract bill was committed and reported.

The Marquis of LANSDOWN presented a petition from the land-owners attending the market at Dorchester against the corn bill. Laid on the table.—Adjourned.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS, MONDAY, JULY 8, 1822.

The loan bill passed through a committee. The report was ordered to be received to-morrow. The change of pension bill also went through a committee, as did the five per cent. repayment bill. The public works' bill was read a second time, and ordered to be committed to-morrow.

The small notes' bill was read a third time and passed.

The spirits' exportation (Scotland) bill, and the Scottish spirits' drawback bill were read a second time.—To be committed to-morrow.

The punishment by hard labour bill was also read a second time, and ordered to be committed to-morrow.

The excising licensing regulation bill was committed, and ordered to be read a third time to-morrow.

## DISTRESS IN IRELAND.

Upon the order of the day being read for bringing up the report of the committee upon the distresses in Ireland,

Mr. BERNAL rose and observed, that in his opinion it was impossible to palliate the frightful evils which prevailed in Ireland by any other means than a specific grant of money to be voted by Parliament. He trusted that before the session closed, ministers would propose a vote of money to be distributed in those parts of Ireland where distress was most sensibly felt.

Mr. GOULBURN said that the hon. member seemed to be unacquainted with what had passed in a committee of supply on a former evening. Upon that occasion he (Mr. Goulburn) had proposed a vote of 100,000l. to be applied to the purposes which the hon. gent. had mentioned. He thought it was most expedient to afford partial relief to Ireland from time to time, rather than to vote one large sum at once. If it should be found necessary to extend farther assistance to that country, ministers would apply for an additional grant.

Mr. S. WORTLEY thought the practice which had been adopted in the metropolis of begging from house to house to obtain funds in aid of the distressed Irish extremely improper. (hear.) This was only another mode of raising taxes. (hear.) He put it to the right hon. secretary to declare, whether would not be at once the most effectual and satisfactory mode of effecting his object, to take a sufficient sum from the revenue? (hear.)

Mr. CALcraft thought it would have been better to have taken the whole sum which it was considered necessary to distribute in Ireland from the revenue, than to have had recourse to the King's letter, as a means of raising subscriptions at every house.

Mr. H. G. BENNET also reproached the practice of collecting money from door to door, which placed the Irish nation in the light of paupers. He thought Ireland had to demand ample relief from Parliament.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER approved, as we understood, of the collections from house to house.

After a short conversation, in which Mr. DAWSON, Mr. GOULBURN, Sir G. HILL, General GASCYNE, and Lord SARSON, severally bore parts, the report was brought up and read, and the resolutions agreed to.

Mr. J. WILLIAMS presented a petition from certain manufacturers of white salt, in the neighbourhood of Winsford, in Cheshire, praying for the total repeal of the salt tax.

## EXCISE LAWS.

Mr. HOBHOUSE begged to call the attention of the honourable under Secretary of the Treasury to a petition which he (Mr. Hobhouse) held in his hand. It was signed by four individuals, who stated that they had been taken by his Majesty's revenue cutter, the 'Scout,' had carried before certain justices of the peace in the county of Devon, where they were charged by the captain of the cutter with the commission of offences against the revenue laws. They were committed to gaol, to answer this charge. Upon a subsequent day, they were brought up before the same justices, when it appeared that there was no information against them. It might be supposed that the men would now have been discharged. No such thing. Instead of being discharged, they were sent on board his Majesty's ship the 'Lynx,' now lying in Plymouth harbour, in order to be impressed into the King's service for five years. He understood that the individuals who had sent the petitioners on board of his Majesty's vessel believed that they were acting under the authority of an act of Parliament, namely, the 67th Geo. III. He had carefully read that statute, and he found that it gave no authority to any justice of the peace, or other person, to send a man charged with offences against the excise laws on board of his Majesty's fleet against his consent. The act only provided that an individual charged with offences of that nature might, instead of being brought to trial, at once enter himself as a seaman in his Majesty's fleet for the space of five years. This clearly left the option to the party accused. He believed that the petitioners had applied for a writ of *habeas corpus*, which had been refused. After observing that any doubt which existed with regard to the laws upon the subject ought to be immediately cleared up, the honourable member moved, that the petition be brought up.

Mr. LUSHINGTON observed in a few tone of voice as we understood, that the treatment which the petitioners had received must have arisen from a misconception of the act alluded to by the last member, which he believed gave a person convicted of offences against the revenue laws the option of suffering the penalties or of entering on board his Majesty's fleet for five years.

Mr. HOBHOUSE said the hon. secretary was wrong in the construction which he had put upon the act.

Mr. BRIGHT was strongly of opinion that the law to which the petition referred ought to be remedied.

Mr. BERNAL entirely concurred in this opinion.

Mr. WARRE said that he should have introduced the subject, the grievance being of so crying a nature, were it not that it had fallen into abler hands.

Mr. BROUGHAM said that he could not have wished a better illustration than the matter of this petition furnished, for the motion which he made some days ago upon the overpowering influence of the Crown—an influence seen nowhere in a stronger light than in these excise laws. It now appeared that a law stood, or rather lurked, in their statute-books, unknown until a late application to the Court of King's Bench, which rendered any man against whom it was brought to bear liable without conviction—nay, without information even being laid against him—not only unconvicted, untried, unheard, unaccused—to be committed by any justice, to answer whatever charges may be hereafter made against him; and further gave the power to the keeper of the gaol in which he may happen to be lodged, without trial or even charge, to send him on board any of his Majesty's ships to be pressed into the naval service for 5 years. This was an act which the house ought to recollect was passed on the 10th of a former month of July—a time which they well knew was ill adapted for discussing any measure with any hope of a full attendance. This was the manner in which excise laws were framed and heaped upon the subject; and the present, though not a solitary, was about the worst instance which had occurred of their violently oppressive operation. He entirely concurred in his honourable friend's legal construction of the bill, and recommended that a short bill be forthwith brought in, not to explain, but to amend that now in force. If the 10th of July was not too late to pass such an unjust measure, surely the 8th would not be deemed too late for its repeal. (hear.)

Mr. LUSHINGTON said a few words across the table, in so low a tone of voice as to be generally inaudible. We understood him to say, that pains would be taken to prevent an unjustifiable application of the penalties of this law.

Mr. HOBHOUSE would rather decline the task attempted to be put upon him by his honourable and learned friend, of bringing in a bill at this advanced period of the session. He rather relied upon the promise of the Secretary to the Treasury to use his efforts to correct the evil.—The petition was laid on the table.



# ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

—165—

## Cochin China.

WITH AN ENGRAVING, PLATE LXL.—WRITTEN FOR  
THE CALCUTTA JOURNAL.

I visited this interesting Country in 1819, but having since had the misfortune to lose the whole of my papers, much interesting matter has escaped my memory: The facts stated as such, however, may be relied on, and the extraneous matter from other sources has been incorporated with the remarks as necessary to those, whose attention has not been drawn to the very little knowledge extant of this rich and, to us, highly important part of Asia. As an Englishman I viewed with an inquisitive eye that country, which so few of us have penetrated, and the more so, as I felt convinced that but little is known or suspected of its rising importance in the scale of nations. And if but an item is added to that stock of knowledge, my intention has been amply fulfilled.

H. P.

We left Batavia in the American Ship *BEVERLY*, Captain Gardner, on the 5th of June, and on the 12th looked into Saigon river, and afterwards Nhatrang, but finding no interpreters at these places, went on to Turon harbour, where we arrived on the 17th. We found here the French Ship *La Rose* of Bordeaux, Captain Hardi, a Ship of 700 Tons.

A very short visit to them convinced us (the Captain and myself) that it was necessary to pass for an American: the jealousy entertained by the Cochin Chinese of the English, being one of the earliest subjects of conversation. This was not a pleasant alternative; we were, however, too far to recede, and as, of course, I could not wish the Captain to abandon his speculations to gratify my national feelings, I did so.

By the advice of the Gentleman of *La Rose*, whose conduct towards us was at all times most gentlemanly and obliging, and without any of that little jealousy which too often distinguishes traders when they meet on untrodden grounds, we applied for permission to visit Hué; writing at the same time to M Vannier, to whom we had letters, and who, were assured, had great influence at Court.

This, as far as we had an opportunity of judging, was no exaggeration.

Our permission arrived in 4 or 5 days, and we left Turon in our own boat with a Guide, who was for the purpose of shewing us the entrance to the river of Hué, which is rather difficult to persons unaccustomed to it; the high land terminates at Cape Chonmay, and beyond this to where the coast of Tonkin commences, it is a low sandy beach; this is formed by the confluence of the river of Hué with the ocean, and on the delta of this river, about nine miles from its mouth, is the city. At the entrance is a battery of 10 or 12 guns, kept in good order, with a flag-staff; here the boat was brought to, our chests strictly examined, as well as that of the Guide, who had one from the Mandarin, (I use this word as that generally used amongst us). At Keuhan, the village at Turon harbour, he was questioned, apparently very particularly, as to our names, which was read to him from the passport, our men who were counted, &c. and all these particulars were taken in writing for the purpose, as we were afterwards informed, of being sent to the King. Their accuracy in every thing relative to the public service is remarkable: when our first letter was dispatched from Turon, we were surprised to see the Mandarin of the village return the following day on board; we supposed he had already procured an answer, no such thing: the messenger had returned a day's journey, because the Mandarin's report written with Indian Ink, had blacked our letter, and, said the Mandarin, "I might lose my place for that!"

We passed the night on board *La Henri*, another French ship of 450 tons lying in the river, she had gone from hence on a preceding voyage without cargo, but with a contract with the King for 10,000 muskets, some swords and carbines, which were to be paid for in Sugar, and the two ships were here for the purpose of loading it. They experienced however much trouble in

the execution of their contract, many articles being rejected on the most frivolous pretexts; and instead of having the Sugar delivered to them, they were allowed "to procure it themselves!" and lost much time in doing so. Neither of them completed a cargo, nor did their voyages prove advantageous. Captain Rey of the *HENRI* has published the remarks made on his two voyages, but I have not seen them. The Supercargo of the *Ross* is now, I believe, in Cochin China. The appearance of the shores of the river from the bar to the town is at first very insipid, they are large flats of sand and mud covered at intervals with grass and reeds, and dividing the river into innumerable branches;\* and the view of the sea is entirely shut out by the high sand bank which borders the coast; as the suburbs of the town are approached, the banks become better cultivated, and tufts of plaintains and bamboos, sheltering the cottages of the natives, are interspersed: these become more numerous as you advance, and large herds of buffaloes and many elephants are seen in the fields, the river becomes thickly studded with boats of all sizes and kinds, of these they have a vast variety, and amongst them the war galleys and the Fan-sail boats of Tonquin are the most remarkable.

When within a short distance of M. Vannier's house, the landscape is highly interesting, and backed by the lofty mountains of the interior and seen beneath the bright glow of an Asiatic sky, may even be termed beautiful.

Messrs. Vannier and Cheznian, the two French Mandarins at the Court of Cochin China, are men of 50 years of age, they have both been more than 30 years in the country, and of course possess an intimate acquaintance with the language; they were both Junior Officers in some of the French Ships which visited Cochin China about the time of Adran's return from his embassy to France: they were assistants and intimates with him, and may be supposed therefore to partake of and understand the views of that enterprising and deserving man; who, in spite of the contemptuous manner in which he has been treated by English writers, was certainly one of those extraordinary characters whose efforts it is impossible to contemplate without admiration, and who had well nigh been the founder of an Empire in Asia, perhaps superior to our own. He is treated as an ambitious Priest, who had taken the title of Bishop of Cochin China, &c. When we have learnt to judge of Frenchmen, or rather of all men as we judge our own countrymen, then we may learn to appreciate their actions independent of the latitude and longitude in which they were born. The spirit of enterprise and daring which we admire in the Ansons and the Clives, the Cooks and the Nelsons of England, is often ambition and meddling in the Polivres, the Labourdonsais, and the Adrans of France; is this because they are Frenchmen? or because they were unfortunate?—the true test is the action, and the burning of Palta or the assassination of the English by Sumroo are alike disgraceful to humanity.

Of Adran it will only be necessary to say that amidst the multiplicity of affairs in which the desperate state of the King's fortunes and his negotiations with the corrupt ministry of the Court of France must have involved him, amidst the arduous task of preserving his own ascendancy in the factions of an Asiatic Court, and the probable difficulty of managing the adventurers he had brought with him from France, he still found time, not only to educate the young Prince, whom he rendered a man of most superior acquirements, but also to translate the most useful articles of the *Encyclopædia* and to compose many Treatises for the King's use in the Cochin Chinese language!

He died in about 1804 or 5, adored by the natives, and beloved by the few of his countrymen who survived. They interred him with all the pomp they could display according to their ritual; but when they had finished, the King, as a last tribute of respect, performed the most splendid obsequies ever witnessed in the country, and built a mausoleum over his remains at Saigon,

\* The mark for going up to the city is to keep the right hand shore on board the whole way.

at which the same ceremonies are annually performed as at the tombs of his ancestors. His proudest title to our respect remains to be cited, and that is, that while all around him was war and violence, while he wielded almost uncontrolled the resources of an empire, no act of injustice or oppression was ever laid to his charge; Adran was the friend of peace and humanity, at 14 years from his death the natives still speak of him with tears\* in their eyes, and to have been his countryman is still a passport amongst a nation of barbarians.

I return from this digression. Messrs. V. and C. are high in the confidence of the King Cung Shung (or Nguy-en-Shang as he is called in the *EDINBURGH REVIEW* of M. de la Bessachère's work,) they have the rank of Mandarines, attend his council daily, and are consulted by him on every occasion, particularly on those relative to foreign affairs, in which he is said to be entirely guided by them. M. Vannier has a seniority, I believe, in rank at Court: he has a reserved manner about him, which is very unusual in a Frenchman. M. Cheznian on the contrary has the frank gentlemanly urbanity, which distinguishes the Frenchman of the old school; neither of them are rich, or indeed in more than competent circumstances. M. Cheznian has, since I visited that country, made a voyage to France, and returned with the title of Consul; his son, a fine youth of 16, who, though born in Cochin China, has the manners and gentlemanly address of his father, accompanied him.

Both Messrs. V. and C. have several children by native women: during our stay at Hue, we lived at Mr. Vannier's house, and experienced from these gentlemen every attention and assistance which they could bestow on us: there is another Frenchman resident here, a M. de l'Espion, he is a man of no consideration, and is supported solely by the other two, he has also some paltry medical employment about the King's person.

Cung Shung the (then) reigning Monarch of Cochin China, having reconquered his hereditary dominions, Cochin China and Cambodia, and added Tonquin to them, exercises an unlimited sway over this vast country. He is described by Messrs. V. and C. as a man of most acute and penetrating genius, shrewd, quick and decisive, ambitious and restless, always intent on schemes of military improvement or of aggrandisement, (though age has rather cooled his ardour for conquest,) indefatigable in the discharge of his public duties: seeing, hearing, ordering, every thing himself, taking but 5 hours rest out of 24, and being at no time more than 8 absent from business; such indeed is his activity and intelligence that he is compared by them to Napoleon, no small compliment from a Frenchman.

Of his politics, so short a visit and so confined a sphere of observation as mine necessarily was, can enable me to say but very little: A keen and vigilant jealousy of the British, fanned and nursed by French influence, and unfortunately confirmed by one or two oversights on our part, is the most prominent feature in it; he has said, "that he fears no power in Asia but the British," this I have no doubt is the fact the coast from Saigon to Tonquin is lined with beacons, which are said to be placed there for the purpose of alarming the coast should an English Fleet appear off it. At Saigon and Turon the scrutiny of his Officers was most surprisingly exact as to the nature of our vessel, her guns, &c. all of which was taken in writing, nor is this to be wondered at, when we recollect the very predominant influence of the French in that country. Another Adran, and France yet possesses such men, would give them an influence in that quarter which might cause us much trouble: Their college in Tonquin, consisting of a Bishop and 2 or 3 Missionaries, is a step towards this, and to it we may add that other Missionaries are to be sent to them.

\* This is a fact, and happened to the writer of these remarks.

† 1819. He died in 1820, or 21. He is the same with whom Adran's famous treaty was made, and it is said that on his death bed his last advice to his son was, "Cherish the French by every means in your power, but never concede a foot of ground to them or to any other European Powers!"

The French indeed do not make a secret of their wishes, they are straining every nerve, though covertly, to procure a footing in this country, and bitterly lament their present disability to do so; as individuals, they of course are fearful of venturing in a country in which are no laws but the will of the great; and they dread the state of the country at the death of Cung Shung, who it appears is attached to one of his sons to such a degree, that he wished to place him on the throne to the prejudice of the legitimate successor, and this they feared might involve the two parties in a war at his death. The son educated by Adran is dead, having been killed in the command of one of his father's armies at the last battle fought against the rebels in 1809 or 9.

That an establishment there on a future day is contemplated there appears to me good reason for supposing; the ships sent out were peculiarly patronised by the French Minister (de la Marme), and great care was taken that every article of their cargo, particularly arms, were of a good quality; they certainly were so, for I had an opportunity of examining many of them, the presents were described to us as superb, but we did not see any of these.

On the 3rd day after our arrival, we visited the Mandarin of the Strangers, for the purpose of procuring a pass for permission to trade to Saigon, whither we had determined to go. We visited him three times on the same account, and after making him presents to the amount of about 3000 Dollars, obtained our permission.

His house is within the city which stands on an Island formed by two branches of the river about a mile above M. Vannier's house.

This city is in itself a striking proof of the immense resources which the King commands, and of his genius in conceiving and executing with only Cochin Chinese artificers, so vast an undertaking. It was commenced in 1813 or 14, and will be finished in 20. It is a square 5 or 6 miles in circumference, fortified according to the rules of European fortification, the plan an imitation of a chef d'œuvre of Vauban's, (the city of Strasbourg I believe), it has 24 bastions, each mounting 36 pieces of cannon from 18 to 68 lbs. all cast in his own foundries; Capt. Rey, who had seen them, assured me they were beautiful guns, (he is a Naval Officer) and so well cast that he could scarcely believe them to have been made in the country, more particularly as they had imitated to great exactness the arms, fleurs de lys, &c. which were on the French guns, which served them as models.

The ramparts are about 50 feet high, of great thickness, with bomb proof casemates, magazines, &c. The gates of heavy blocks of hewn stone, are at least 60 feet high, and to the vane of the building over them at least 120 feet: over each gate are tablets of black marble with inscriptions in letters of gold. The ditch is at least 100 feet wide, faced with brick, and of a proportional depth; the glacis, covered ways (or zig-zag roads leading from the gates, for I am not certain of the propriety of the term), are faced and coped with hewn stone, the esplanade or slope towards the river the same. Over each gate is a house of two stories as in the plate, well tiled and varnished, the vases are of a polished brass. The interior of the city corresponds with the exterior, large streets cross it from gate to gate, and in the centre is to be built the citadel which is to be more lofty and more magnificent; we did not see it, though its foundations were said to be laid, as we were conducted from our boat direct to the house of the Mandarin which was near the gate; and though strictly charged and advised to make no observation of any kind,\* I contrived to make a pocketbook sketch, from which that of the plate has been drawn, it is more correct as a whole than in the miniature, but will give a correct idea of the style and finish of the work.

\* Their accurate system of surveillance even of the French is amusingly exact, and reminded us of Japan; the following is an instance. The Officers of the HENRI white in the river, took an artificial horizon on shore to regulate their Chronometer, and the next day in Council the King told Messrs. Vannier and Cheznian that "they were taking a map of the country," and desired that they might desist.



I return to the interior: there is a beautiful row of trees round the inside of the ramparts, which, while it keeps the houses at a great distance from them, forms a noble walk; and at equal distances are flights of stone steps for troops, and slopes for guns; in short, the whole is a most splendid work; the design, the beautiful finish, the massy solidity and scientific regularity of it are truly astonishing, and when compared with the miserable huts of Nhatory and Turon, and the despicable appearance of the Cochinchinese, would almost appear a tale of enchantment. We could not, indeed, give credit to the accounts of the French Gentlemen of the *Rose* and *Hesper*, but when we had seen it, our ideas, we found, had fallen far short of it. I had seen other fortifications, such as fort Fort William and Manila, but for imposing appearance they fall far short of the city of Hué.

His Naval Force is not less extraordinary, as to the qualities of design, finish and extent. He had then building on the banks of the river before the town, as an amusement or whim, 50 Schooners of 14 guns each (there is not water for larger vessels); we passed between two of them, going from the boat to the gate; the bottoms are beautiful French models, but the upper works, poop and fore-castle, are Cochinchinese, (he lamented to Messrs. Vannier and Chezeau that the prejudices of his people obliged him to make them so); the plank and the timbers are of fine teak, and the workmanship excellent; they were actively employed on them when we were there; having great numbers of men at work, which together with those on the fortifications (which are from 50 to 60,000 men, long files of labourers carrying planks, elephants in great numbers, piles of stones, bricks, forges, work-sheds, &c. formed a scene of which those only who have seen it can form an adequate idea, (and a dock yard was not a new sight to me.) The regularity and order of this scene was not less remarkable: the noise of hammers and workmen was deafening, but all were employed, there were no idlers, and as far as the eye could reach to the yet unfinished bastions of the works, the same busy activity and swarms of workmen were to be seen.

On the banks of the river lower down he has 80 vessels of the same description, but built to carry a heavy gun in the bow, and 6 or 8 smaller ones; they are also fine vessels, from 100 to 150 Tons, well built and of great strength. M. Vannier's account of them is that they were built as a whim or amusement about 7 or 8 years ago, and after being afloat for some time were hauled up, they are under sheds about a mile below M. Vannier's house.

The King has also a floating palace in which he then resided, it resembled an immense budgerow; we passed within a short distance of it, but could see but very little of it, as it is moored in an inclosure of large bamboos in the middle of the river, in a part of it where the diverging of some branches forms a large sheet of water; it has amongst other singularities an European foremast; this fancy struck him after a visit on board Captain Rey's ship, he also proposed to visit the *Rose* off the bar, but was prevented from doing so by bad weather. Several war galleys were anchored near it, and on the opposite shore a large fleet of state galleys, whose high sterns appeared one sheet of gold from the quantity of gilding upon them. In form they resembled much those of our earlier attempts in navigation, of which plates are given in Charnock's Naval Architecture, that is, the sterns; we passed several of the war galleys apparently exercising, they are stout vessels of 80 to 100 Tons, pulling about the same number of oars. We did not see the first of the state galleys, these being laid up with great care for solemn occasions, one of them is said to have nearly 50 lbs. of gold on her in ornaments, she was taken from the rebels, and is preserved as a trophy.

His naval force may be estimated as follows:—50 Schooners of 14 guns nearly finished,—80 Gun boats laid up.—100 Vessels of various sizes laid up and unserviceable.

About 300 Gallies from 80 to 100 oars, 500 ditto from 40 to 80, including the State Gallies.

In the Provinces 500 vessels from 20 to 100 oars, making about 1500 vessels, of which perhaps 2-3rds. may be on an emergency rendered serviceable in a short time. There are certainly more than 1000 large vessels, and we must remember

that he can at all times command the fishing and trading craft, with which the coasts of the country swarm.

Of his Military Force, I can say but very little, he has not a great number of regular troops, and in case of war every man is a soldier; he contemplated organising an Army on a more respectable footing, for which he procured the muskets, &c.

The Garrison of the City in war is to be 50,000 men, for the purpose of holding the Northern provinces and Tonquin in check, should his presence be required in the Southern ones; he has also a brigade of trained elephants.

He is said to possess a well filled treasury: the mines of gold and silver in the interior are, as well as those of other metals, all Royal property, and only wrought for his use, they are said to be very rich. His magnificent works cost him nothing but the pay of his Officers, and the maintenance of a few select workmen; for by the regulations which are established, and which are strictly enforced, about 1-3rd of all the manual labour of the Empire belongs to him! This is almost incredible, but a fact; the materials, the carriage of them, the labour of making, delivering and receiving them, is besides all tribute, or rather extortion, for the people of this country groan in an Egyptian bondage; being literally obliged to make bricks without straw, and even to cultivate and deliver the whole of the coarse sugar with which the fortifications are cemented; in short his government appears to be the most perfect despotism under the sun, and the state of the people the most abject slavery; of this the proofs were not few, which even within our limited sphere we had occasion to remark; I shall mention one:—The Mandarin of Keu Han having visited us and received some trifling presents, was anxious to testify his gratitude, which he did by sending his boat to take the finest fish from the fishing boats near us, and — make us a present of them! This is but one of many instances. The King's reason, for example, for not encouraging commerce is the true spirit of despotism. "They would grow rich and be insolent," said he, when pressed on this subject by Messrs. Vannier and Chezeau, which might be rendered by "Let all be miserable except myself." The Officer who fails to deliver the tribute of his district at the day and hour appointed, infallibly loses his head; and a mistake of 5 in the census of a large village incurs the same penalty; while with this severity, so great is his accuracy in minor affairs, that he has, (amongst a thousand other instances of the same nature) an Officer whose daily duty it is to sound on the bar of the river to report any alteration in its position, and who is personally responsible should any accident occur to the King's boat.

It were absurd to offer any remarks on the character of this people as mine: those which follow are collected principally from conversations with Messrs. Vannier and Chezeau: unless where otherwise designated.

Such of the nobility as we had an opportunity of seeing, as well as those with whom the French had any dealings, were of one uniform character of cringing meanness with us, and insolent pride in office, stooping even to to ask for presents, and scarcely noticing our request when preferred; of our notions of delicacy, or even of decency, in transacting affairs, they appeared to have no idea; they would take, for example, a lowling piece or a piece of silk from the Frenchman's Warehouse, and having kept them a week or ten days, send them back, rusted and soiled, saying "they did not want them." This was a natural consequence of their habit of thinking and acting, for accustomed from childhood to have no will but their own to consult, they could not apparently imagine that there was any injustice in appropriating to their fancies the property of another; but it forms a fearful index to the condition of those who, oppressed by all, could look to none for redress, and a just criterion by which to estimate those countries, when the palace is all splendour and the cottage all misery. Such is, as far as we could ascertain, the present state of this rich and interesting country, their huts are too often the receptacles of filth and misery! and perhaps to their state of civil polity may be traced their decided preference to maritime pursuits, because in them the fruits of their industry, though more precarious and more laborious, are less exposed to "the hand of the spoiler."

They are more perhaps than any people under such a system of government entitled to the character of mildness; a single fact will illustrate this. Messrs. Vannier and Chegnian, in thirty years residence in the country, have known but of three murders fully committed, and when we recollect the epoch at which this fact is stated, (while a sanguinary civil war was waging) it must at least be thought a singular claim to this title; from what cause this mildness proceeded, whether it was rather the apathy of misery than the kindness of good will towards each other, I cannot pretend to determine; from the little we saw and heard, in our dealings with them, we found them always mild, but ready to take every advantage of our inexperience and ignorance of the language in bargaining, but never offering even an insolent gesture; on the contrary, an attempt at a joke, or the stammering a few words of the language appeared to please them highly. Travelling amongst them is so safe that the French Gentlemen, who often went over land from Turon to Hué, never thought of taking arms, except as a defence against wild beasts; at their house at Faifo, when they were collecting sugar, they were once alarmed by a thief, but though he was I think taken, no attempt at resistance was made, and we were assured that from Saigon to Hué, it was equally safe to travel as in the vicinity of the capital.

Punishment of death, though so frequently held "in terrorem" we were informed, was very seldom necessary; when inflicted they are supported invariably with a degree of firmness bordering on apathy, this appears not to be uncommon amongst half civilized and savage nations, and its cause would be a curious inquiry, when we recollect the usual mass of superstitious terrors with which they contrive to surround themselves.

I return to the more immediate subject of this Paper. The King, had he lived, appeared to be making rapid strides to an important rank amongst Eastern Potentates: it was said that he proposed attacking Siam: he had however not only made warlike preparations; he had already the Hydrostatic Press, and had ordered from France a Steam Engine, models of mills, forges, bridges &c.

These things were called there his whims and ornaments: they may be so, but when we recollect what he has done it behoves us to keep a watchful eye on a country where French influence is so predominant, lest one or two more whims should renew the treaty of 1787.

How well the King feels his own importance may be gathered from the following circumstance:—La CYBELE, the first frigate sent by Louis XVIII. into their seas, visited Cochin China in 1817, she was commanded by the Comte de Kergaron\* who thought proper to announce himself as an Ambassador from the King of France. An embassy from France (said M. Vannier,) put us all in motion; a large fleet of galleys was fitted out and every preparation made to do honour to it: The King himself intended going to receive the Letter (to which they attach more importance than to the Ambassador,) but in the mean time he dispatched M. Vannier to compliment the envoy and learn the preliminaries of his business. To his astonishment he found that the whole was a gasconade! and of course made his report to the King accordingly, who was highly incensed at it. "What (said he in council) did this man take us for a parcel of barbarians, amongst whom he might do as he pleased? if my brother the King of France had sent me an embassy, he would have sent me a letter, and not by the hand of such a man." An order was issued, and rigorously enforced, that La CYBELE should be supplied with every necessary, but that no one of her Officers should be allowed to visit the City, and this continued in force while she remained there.

We left Turon for Saigon, having procured our permission to trade, which cost us about 600 dollars, and sailed for that place, but found it impossible to beat to the Southward farther than just at the sight of Pulo Sapata, and in consequence bore up for Manila, where we arrived in August 1819.

\* Who is now confined in a state of derangement in France.

## Commercial Reports.

(From the Calcutta Exchange Price Current of Thursday last.)

	Rs. As.	Rs. A.
Cotton, Jafoon,..... per maund	14 0	14 0
Catchoura,.....	12 0	13 0
Grain, Rice, Patna,.....	3 2	3 4
Patchery, 1st,.....	3 4	3 8
Ditto, 2d,.....	1 12	1 14
Moongy, 1st,.....	1 7	1 8
Ditto, 2d,.....	1 6	1 7
Wheat, Dooda,.....	1 3	1 3
Gram, Patna,.....	1 4	1 5
Dhall, Urruhr, good,.....	1 0	1 0
Indigo, fine blue,.....	310 0	310 0
Ordinary ditto,.....	285 0	303 0
Fine purple and violet,.....	290 0	293 0
Ordinary ditto,.....	280 0	285 0
Dall blue,.....	260 0	270 0
Inferior purple and violet,.....	240 0	250 0
Strong copper,.....	275 0	285 0
Ordinary ditto,.....	230 0	240 0
Oade, fine,.....	250 0	260 0
Ditto, ordinary,.....	260 0	270 0
Saltpetre, Culmee, 1st sort,.....	5 12	5 14
2d sort,.....	5 0	5 6
3d sort,.....	4 0	4 10

Indigo—Has been selling in small parcels during the week, at our quotations—the French and Portuguese are in the market—shipments to a considerable extent are also going on for England—the following statement exhibits the exportation of it, up to the 31st ultimo:—

Great Britain, mannds 17,359; Foreign Europe, 9083; America, 5796; Persian Gulph, &c. 1500; Total factory mannds, 33,638.—(C/o the Honorable Company's Ships, 3490.

Cotton.—The market continues dull, and prices almost nominal—At Mirzapore, on the 1st instant, new Catchoura was quoted at 15.3 per local maund; and at Jeagunge, on the 4th instant, it was stated at 13 to 13.4 per maund—sales during the week 11,000 mannds, of which 9000 were for Calcutta, and the rest for country consumption—stock 25,000 mannds.

Grain—In fair demand, at our quotations.

Saltpetre—In limited request, and rather looking down.

Sugar—Going off in small parcels, at our quotations.

Piece Goods.—Sales to a limited extent are going on at our quotations.

Metals—Iron, in fair demand—Steel, the demand limited, but prices steady—Pig-Lead, looking up—Sheet-Copper, the demand limited, and on the decline—Block-Tin, falling; we know of a large sale in old, during the week, at 36.12 per maund—Tutenagus and Spelter dull, both have also fallen since our last.

Europe Goods—In limited demand, a heavy stock in the market.

Freight to London—May be stated at £ 3 to £ 5.10 per Ton.

Exports from Calcutta from the 1st to the 31st of Dec. 1822.

Cotton, to London,.....	bales of 360 lbs.	120
Sugar, to London,.....	bags	18153
Liverpool,.....		2861
Saltpetre, to London,.....		17031
Liverpool, &c,.....		7457
Rice, to London,.....	bazar mannds	7570
Dry Ginger, to London,.....		609
Piece Goods, to London,.....	pieces	12919
Silk, to London,.....	bazar mannds	589
Indigo, to London,.....	factory mannds	10031
Liverpool,.....		1059

Importation of Bullion, from the 1st to the 31st of Dec. 1822.

	SILVER Sa. Rs.	GOLD	TOTAL
From 1st to the 31st of Dec...	1,99,83,605	9,05,366	1,99,88,061
Previously this year,.....	8,46,783	85,980	9,33,763
Total,.....	1,99,29,478	9,92,346	2,00,21,824

The Exchange is taken at the Custom House rate, viz. 16 Rupees to the £ Sterling, and 24 Rupees per Spanish Dollar.



# ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

—169—

## Varieties.

### PRIVATE MATTERS—DUM-DUM—GOVERNMENT HOUSE—AND THE BENGAL ARMY.

It has been one of the most frequent, though at the same time one of the most empty, of all JOHN BULL's professions, that his pages were not to be made a vehicle for the discussion of private matters, or allusions to concerns of private life:—and that he would admit into his columns nothing which had not a clear and distinct bearing on the public conduct and public principles of the CALCUTTA JOURNAL. The way in which he has illustrated this profession, has been by printing any and every thing sent to him that could bring the private character of his rival into disrepute; while he has wholly omitted to repeat in his own columns what has been said in ours in defence. Further, he has printed the Letters of certain Informers, who made a breach of all honorable confidence by detailing in a public Newspaper what occurred at a private and social party at the Town Hall, and what passed in conversation at a Gentleman's private table in his own house elsewhere. His pages have contained an announcement of what is known to us on no other than anonymous authority, that Mr. Buckingham's name was erased from the List of persons to be invited to the last party at Government House, by the hand of Lord Hastings himself; and the same List being made the standard for invitations to the Fête given on his departure from India, to the consequent omission of his name on that occasion also. And lastly, to close his memorable career of studiously excluding all allusion to personal questions, and matters of private life, he publishes the assertion of some Spy who has taken the trouble to learn, and thought it of sufficient importance to tell the world, that Mr. Buckingham has not for the last two months at least sat at the Mess Table at Dum Dum!

These are indeed high and mighty events, and well worth the serious attention of the Indian Public, if they will be so amused for weeks and months in succession, with deeds of such infinite consequence as those relating to Mr. Buckingham's breakfasts, dinners, and suppers; at what hour he eats the one, who sits down to join him at the other, and whether he mingles with the motley crowd at a Government House Ball, dances at the more select parties of the Assemblies, or instead of driving home after the Play, takes his Supper with the Officers and their Friends at the Dum Dum Mess!

It would be worth while at once to employ a Secretary on the public account, and to be paid out of the public purse, whose business it should be to note down every action of each day from sun-rise to sun-set; and no doubt some of the minute and faithful historians who have been accustomed to record the out-goings and in-comings, the up-risings and the down-sittings of their Majesties of Delhi and Oude, might be engaged on easy terms to unite the ends of an *Ukbar* and a *Bulletin* in one, so that that important personage, Mr. Buckingham, who owes the honour of so high a distinction to his rivals rather than himself, might not be lost sight of for a single moment.

It will perhaps come to this at last; but, in the mean time it will be well to say a word or two *en passant*, when any striking inaccuracy or mis-statement goes abroad, till more correct means of reporting all that passes may be attained.

In the first place, then, we must say that we never knew nor do we even now know, (except on the anonymous authority of a writer in the BULL, a Paper that teems with mis-statements every day) that Lord Hastings ever struck out Mr. Buckingham's name from the List of Visitors to his table, with his own hand, or that he ordered it to be struck out by any other. We know this only, that Mr. Buckingham never did sit at table with Lord Hastings in the Government House, during the whole of his stay in India, and therefore that he never was on that List.—If it be important for the Public to know such a matter, we may add that except on occasions, when people of all religions, shades, complexions, conditions, and circumstances, attended that Building, such as National Fêtes—Presentations of Addresses—College Disputations

—Eulogies on the Liberty of the Press, &c. &c. Mr. Buckingham was never numbered in the multitudes that successively crowd that public Edifice; and since the well-remembered Musical discussions, when certain persons arrogated to themselves the right of dictating to the Society who should sing to them, and who should not, and took shelter in the only refuge left them, the influence at Government House, Mr. Buckingham has never once received even the common Cards sent to every body, Hindoo, Mussulman, Turk, Jew, and Infidel, when National Fêtes are given to all the world, and persons of every shade and hue invited. We do not believe it to be true, therefore, that Lord Hastings with his own hand recently struck out from a List of any kind the name of a person who, if such name had been on that List, must have been included in common with others in all the public parties given since the said Musical Rebellion against Common Sense and Justice. It might have been done some three years ago by some other hand; but whenever it was done, if done at all, such an act must reflect more discredit on the hand that did it, than on the person to whom it related, as long as it admitted as a principle of common justice, that every man should be deemed innocent till proved guilty, and that no man should be condemned without a hearing and full admission of his defence.

But we do not believe it, and never once admitted it:—unless reverting to the affected triumph over an individual at a supposed visitation, he deemed an admission that such a supposed visitation really occurred:—we neither said nor meant any such thing, we spoke only of the exultation, of which we had sufficient proof, and not of the thing rejoiced at, of which we have no proof at all; since the affected triumph might be just as great whether the thing alleged as the cause of such triumph were true or false.

Next, as to Dum Dum—in the same manner: during the whole course of the four years that we have resided in India, we never but once (and that very recently) received an invitation from the Body of Officers residing there, to partake of their festivities. Every one knows that such invitations are generally made by individual members of the Mess: and that whoever had personal Friends among the Officers there, joined the Suppers and Balls after the Plays, on a mere verbal request made on the spot. We have not sat at the Mess Table at Dum-Dum for many months, nor even visited that hospitable Cantonment for a long period: but it would be just as reasonable to attribute our absence from Dum-Dum, to the falling of an ice-berg in the Polar Sea, as to the Letters published in the JOHN BULL; which, however unproductive of harm to us, have procured for that Paper a censure of which it has no reason to be proud.

We ought to ask, and do ask pardon of Lord Hastings, and the Officers at Dum-Dum for such discussions as these; as their private conduct is as much called in question, and made subject to unwarrantable scrutiny, as our own. No man will say that it is not purely a private matter, what is said at one Gentleman's table and what is done at another. No man will deny that Lord Hastings and the Dum Dum Officers have a right to include, and a right to omit, whom they please in their invitations; but every one will at the same time confess that the history of who is asked by the one, and who not asked by the other, is as much a matter of a private and personal nature as any individual's refusal or acceptance of such invitations would be. What would be said of us, for instance, if Mr. Canning on his arrival were to ask certain persons to a dinner, one of whom pleaded illness, another domestic circumstances; and so on; and the JOURNAL of the next day were to blazon forth the names of those who were invited, and the names of those who were not, distinguishing those who had accepted from those who had declined, and adding further the substance of the conversation passing at the table during and after dinner? There is not a voice that would not be lifted up in reprobation of such a violation of all the sanctity and decency of private life, and justly too;—since it can be no honest or honorable man's business to ferret out who dines here, and who sups there, for the purpose of telling it to the world to the injury of the individual whose actions he secretly watches.

Such a system of Espionage is so detestable, that those who stoop to perform it, dare not avow themselves. They are compelled for their own safety to wear masks, as they would be scouted from all honorable circles, and visited with the severest marks of public indignation if known.

Yet this is exactly what the masked Spies of the BULL are every day performing towards Mr. Buckingham. They pry into his very visits, they mark who speak to him at Public Balls, they note whether he dines at Dom Dom or sups at Government House, they know who visit him at his own abode, which of his former friends look cool, or who still cordially greets him; and whenever any circumstance admits of being construed to his disadvantage, or is likely to give himself or his dearest connections pain, they find a ready receptacle in the pages of the BULL, to whatever they may choose to send to it.

If there be any individual in this Society who would not tolerate such an inquisition exercised on the private acts and private connections of himself or his family, in common justice he ought not to patronize or tolerate such a system, pursued as this is with such cruel and unrelenting malevolence towards another. Let every man make it his own case, and ask his own heart what would be his indignation at finding the most sacred recesses of his family and connections penetrated and profaned, as those of Mr. Buckingham has been; his young and innocent female relatives dragged before the world as "fair radicals," his carriage and private establishment of servants ridiculed, his friends denounced and held up to odium, with threats of the anger of Government towards any man who dared to continue his intercourse with one whom he *knew* to be innocent, though anonymous and skulking miscreants safely denounced him as guilty. We repeat again, let any man make this case his own, and ask himself whether he would not be indignant at such treatment? and if he would not tolerate it towards himself, then religion, honour, justice, and every right feeling of the heart, must teach him that it is wrong to countenance or support such a system persevered in from day to day towards another.

Among the daily perversions and wilful misrepresentations of our acts and expressions that the BULL contains, there are some so ludicrous that we pass them over with the assurance that all but their writers will laugh at them. Of this nature is one which occurred a day or two ago, where, speaking of the reported death of Lords Londonderry and Liverpool, we said that whatever affliction this might occasion in private circles, it would not be received as the greatest public calamity that could possibly happen in a national point of view. Some wiser men rung the changes upon this, as little short of treason, and seemed to think he could make the Indian Public believe that the death of these noblemen would be the greatest calamity that the nation could sustain—for that it would not was all we asserted; and we were called black-hearted, and every thing that is abominable, for daring to think their deaths no great public loss! This we could laugh at easily; but there are other equally wilful perversions of truth not quite so harmless, and of these we shall note two instances more particularly.

In our Paper of the 9th instant, page 121, we spoke of "a Government House, which had sheltered beneath its roof, persons and deeds that would not bear a hundredth part of the scrutiny applied to the individual in question;" and every one who knows what an infinite succession of persons of all kinds and descriptions have visited, and will again visit as long the Building shall last, this public Editor, appropriated like a Caravanserai to the reception of successive shoals of persons, who may happen to change as they do with every succeeding Fête, will readily believe with us, that it has often sheltered beneath its roof persons and deeds that would not bear the searching scrutiny which has been applied to one individual by the Calcutta Press within the last four years generally, and the last three months in particular. Yet this simple assertion has been so tortured from its plain meaning, that a writer in Saturday's BULL says, "Mr. Buckingham has made an open and public assertion that deeds of such ATROCITY are COMMITTED under the roof of the Government

House, as to require the utmost care on the part of its inmates, that no bold and intrepid advocate of public virtue, like Mr. Buckingham should be admitted within its walls." Never was a more wilful perversion than this. But it is sufficient to place the passages in contrast, for every one to see them in their true light, and estimate the malignity of the person so misrepresenting another's words accordingly.

In the same Paper is the revival of a three-repeated charge that we have "called on the Army of Bengal to stand by us in our attempts to restore what the Government had faithlessly taken away, the Liberty of the Press;" and then, to make the thing wear a more serious aspect, the writer affects to tremble for the safety of every Englishman in India, as if the Bengal Army were invoked to eat every Englishman's throat! Here, on the spot, such a charge is almost too ridiculous to notice; but as it seems there are certain sharp-sighted men, like Mr. Edmonstone at home, who can see Appeals to the Natives to follow the example of America, where no such Appeals ever existed; and still sharper-witted men, like the Editor of the Asiatic Journal, who can see sedition spreading by means of the Calcutta Press into the jungles of Hindoostan, and—in spite of the want of Dawks to carry Papers there, and the want of acquaintance with the language to read them, even should they arrive—fancies every Pindarrie horseman converted into an Indian Radical;—since such consummate ignorance on Indian affairs exists at home, it may be right, for the people of England to know, first, that no such call on the Bengal Army to stand by an individual in opposition to Government, has ever been made; and secondly, that if any one could be so besotted as to make it, he would be scouted by the Bengal Army, and laughed at by the community for his pains.

The origin of this mighty and momentous cause of alarm, is this. THE FRIEND OF BANKS, NISSEL, and a host of other equally malignant writers in the BULL called on the Governor General, to transport us from the country; on the Public Functionaries of Government to discountenance us; on the Army, the Civil Service, and all classes of honorable Society, to abandon us and expel us from among them, as degraded and unworthy of their countenance and support. In the course of the discussion, it came out by confession, that it was as an Editor of a Paper exercising the Freedom of the Press, and giving his sentiments to the world without a Censor, that we were become so obnoxious; and that since every other method had failed to bring that Freedom of the Press into disrepute, it was necessary to blacken the character of the individual whose sentiments derived weight from that character being hitherto respectable, since, if his character could be destroyed, his sentiments and the Free Press must fall in the general wreck.

What was the course we pursued? All classes had been implored to abandon us. We asked all classes to continue their support as before;—and this called Sedition! Every man in India is asked to raise his dagger against us; but, before he plunges it into our bosom, we say "Strike, but hear!" and this is called Rebellion against the State!! Here, no one, not even the person who wrote this abominable accusation, can believe what he has stated, that we called on the Army to stand by us in opposition to the Government. None but a madman or a fool could have thought of even asserting such a thing;—but let the English Reader—for it must be quite unnecessary to ask any Indian one to do so—turn to the last column of Mr. Buckingham's Defence, at page 724 of the Journal for Sunday December 22, 1822, the passage on which this charge of sedition is grounded, and he will there see that instead of the Army of Bengal being called on to act in opposition to Government, it is asked to aid and support the Government in its views! The Governor General, the Members of Council, the Public Functionaries of Office, the Civil Service, the Army, the British Community, the Philanthropist, and the Christian, are ALL invoked to follow one proud example, that first set them by the Governor General and Commander in Chief, inherishing that "noble spirit to be found only in men accustomed to indulge and express their honest sentiments." This is



all we asked the Army to do; and this, Lord Hastings had long before held up as worthy the admiration of every class of Society. We live by the support of the voluntary suffrage extended to our labours by all classes of our countrymen in India. A masked miscreant, who has not the courage to disclose himself either to the man he slanders or to the laws that he violates, exerts his utmost efforts to poison the minds of all classes against us, and induce them to withdraw their suffrage, so as to effect our utter ruin. We appeal in turn to those very classes, lay before them the proofs of our antagonist's malignity and ignorance, and of our own innocence and integrity; and invoke them, as men of honor and of feeling, to support our cause as before, setting the Highest Civil and Military Authority of the Land before them, as the example worthy of their imitation, and asking him and all in authority under him to render justice to a persecuted and injured individual whom they had been asked to abandon.—And this is called exciting the Army to Sedition!!!

We have written much on these disgraceful calumnies,—disgraceful to the unknown persons who write, disgraceful to the pages that admit, and disgraceful to that small portion of the community who countenance them; but, painful as it has been to us and others thus to be made the object of perpetual and unrelenting persecution, we have reason to be proud of the result. Englishmen of all classes revolt at injustice and proscription; and the steadily flourishing state of our JOURNAL shews that we had not over-rated the value or amount of right feeling among independent Englishmen in India. For such honest men, no Protest against a charge of seducing the Bengal Army from their duty, could possibly be necessary here; nor will the strongest denial of such a charge be of any avail in converting those who are determined to view all we say or do through a distorted medium, whether here or elsewhere. But, for the impartial Public of England, before whom this will appear, and for the Members of the British Parliament, as well as the Directors and Proprietors of India Stock at home, we think it at least useful that they should see the Case in its true colours: and know that we could not submit quietly to the charges of Sedition and Treason, which are rung out against us by the Tories of our Enemies; but that we recorded, on the spot, a solemn and deliberate Denial of their false, atrocious, and infamous Labels.

### St. Helena.

A Memorandum handed to us yesterday, contains the following particulars as Heads of Intelligence from a Letter dated St. Helena, August 31:—

Major Bryant of the Bengal Army, who was then at that Island on his way home, was in excellent health.

On the 7th of July, at Sea, Captain Maghe was lost overboard from the GANGES, Captain Chivers, but his body was recovered. This accident occurred on the second day after the exhibition of mental derangement in the unfortunate individual named.

On the 4th of August, Captain Chivers was attacked with a fit of apoplexy, and died on the third day following.

The Passengers and Crew of the GANGES had been on short allowance of water for some time; and on their reaching St. Helena on the 29th of August they had water for one day only at a reduced allowance.

News of Lord Hastings's intended departure from India had reached St. Helena in August.

The GANGES was to continue her voyage to England on the 1st of September.

### PRICE OF BULLION.

Spanish Dollars, .....	Sicca Rupees	205	8	a	205	10	per	100
Dubloons, .....		30	5	a	31	5	each	
Jose, or Pezoz, .....		17	6	a	17	12	each	
Dutch Ducats, .....		4	4	a	4	12	each	
Louis D'Or, .....		8	4	a	8	6	each	
Silver & Franc pieces, .....		150	4	a	150	8	per	100

### Masquerade.

Among the many things sung and said at the late Masquerade, which was splendid and costly in the extreme, and held to have eclipsed all preceding ones in brilliancy of effect, we have seen some awfully dull productions:—but among the collection of things submitted to us, there is one for its novelty worth publishing. It was distributed by a person assuming the character of "A Man of the World," ready for all changes that "expediency" might require, and is as follows:—

### PROPOSALS

For Publishing, by Subscription,

A new Series of Calcutta Newspapers, upon an entirely novel and approved plan,—for which a Royal Patent has been obtained,—by Mr. OMNIUM GATHERUM, late of London, but now Town Crier of Calcutta.

The talents of the different Editors of the Calcutta Papers having been found very inadequate to the tasks assumed by them, and party-spirit running excessively high in these degenerate times, it is proposed, as the very best possible arrangement that can be adopted, that an entire new Series, consisting of Seven distinct and separate Weekly Papers, or Habboda-diurnal Journals, each independent of the other, shall be undertaken, under the general conduct of one and the same able and independent Editor, whose political opinions are to fluctuate daily, for the benefit of all parties, but who is to be under the immediate controul of the Grand Jury, the Select Vestry, the Kirk of Sessions, and the Police of Calcutta, viz.

1st.—"THE INDIA GAZETTE" having evidently for some time back been in a sickly state, to be sent to the General Hospital, and "THE DOCTOR" to do his duty every Monday, until reported radically cured.

2nd.—"THE JOURNAL" to be abolished as good for nothing, and a Tuesday's Paper substituted in its stead, to be entitled "THE TRAVELLER."

3d.—The "GHOST OF THE MIRROR" to be raised every Wednesday Morning, in the form of "THE SILENT REFLECTOR."

4th.—The "GOVERNMENT GAZETTE" leading far too much to the Parliament side, to be suppressed; and a new one instituted under the denomination of "THE THURSDAY'S MINT OF INTELLIGENCE, OR ASSAY OF CIVIL AND MILITARY TALENT, FOR ALL DEPARTMENTS."

5th.—The "JOHN BULL," being in a dangerous way, to be privately strangled, and the state of the case reported on Fridays by "THE CORONER."

6th.—"THE HUNKARY" following too evidently the bad example of its daily brethren, to be dismissed the service, and a new Cassid appointed in his room, to be termed "THE NORTHERN MESSENGER" to run on Saturdays.

7th.—The short-lived, "GUARDIAN" to be resuscitated on Sundays, for the benefit of the public peace and morals, and to assume the congenial appellations of "THE HUE AND CRY; OR THE CITY WATCHMAN."

The most extensive arrangements having been made for ensuring success to the above Grand Undertaking, all that is wanting is the patronage of a liberal, enlightened, and discerning Calcutta Public,—to whom this Prospectus is with all deference submitted by

Their most obedient very humble Servant,

OMNIUM GATHERUM.

Late Reporter to 10 London Newspapers, but now Town Crier of Calcutta, and Intended Editor of all the Seven new Journals.

### BANK OF BENGAL RATES.

Discount on Private Bills, .....	6	per	cent.
Doitto on Government Bills of Exchange, .....	5	per	cent.
Interest on Loans on Deposit, .....	5	per	cent.

**Robbery on the River.***To the Editor of the Journal.*

SIR,

I beg leave to make you acquainted with a circumstance, that has just taken place, of a most atrocious nature, and in my opinion, one that ought not to escape the notice of the Police of Calcutta; the particulars you will find at foot, and if you think inserting them in your widely circulated JOURNAL will be the means of preventing a repetition of such villany, oblige me by doing so.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

Earl Kellie, at anchor off Melancholy Point, Sunday Evening. } R. EDWARDS, Commander.

At 7-30 P. M. was alarmed by the piercing cries of several persons evidently in distress, who were hailing the Ship for assistance, and supposing it to proceed from some vessel that had struck on the sand, and was sinking, (which we could not see on account of a heavy fog,) Mr. Fabian, the Pilot, in charge, and Mr. W. Warden, the Chief Officer of the Ship, went with the Row Boat and Dingy to their assistance, when to their surprise, they found a Paunchway with three women, Aynahs, and two Portuguese men, from the Ship WELLINGTON, on their way to Calcutta. The unfortunate women had been robbed of the whole of their Property, Trunks, &c. and the Crew of the boat much beat and bruised; one man in particular had a tremendous gash on his face, and the boat was robbed of her oars and rudder, so that they were left entirely at the mercy of the tide, to take them to Calcutta. Unfortunately the depredators had made their escape, before the boats could get to their assistance. This morning at 8 A. M. the Row Boat employed by the Ship, picked up a box, with the following marks, on the cover of lid, No. 1, M. and C. Whish. Ship WELLINGTON, on the side Clara Rousseau, Ayah, to Mr. Whish, which I make not the least doubt, is one of the boxes belonging to the unfortunate women. The boat by which the robbery was committed, was said to contain about 40 persons,—the box will be delivered to any of the parties on applying for it.

R. E.

**Indian Army.**

It having happened to be our good fortune, late last evening, to obtain a sight of the subjoined little testimonial, we could not think of keeping it from the public till its issue through the regular channel.—

**GENERAL ORDERS BY THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF.***Head-quarters on Board the Nereid Yacht, January 6, 1823.*

The Marquess of Hastings cannot quit India without soliciting the Officers, European or Native, the Non-Commissioned Officers, and Men of both His Majesty's and the Hon'ble Company's Troops, at whose Head he has so long had the Honor of Standing, to accept his sincere Thanks for the Satisfaction which their conduct has uniformly given to him,

The Fidelity, the Zeal, and the Discipline which have been so characteristic of the Army during his connection with it, have been a source of the highest gratification to him; and he could expatiate with truth and pleasure on the brilliant Gallantry of the Troops: But what in his opinion has distinguished them the most, is the humane care shown by all Ranks, so that the Inhabitants of the Countries thro' which Divisions passed should suffer as little as possible from the Progress of the Forces.

Tho' the Marquess of Hastings had not the opportunity of witnessing in person, with regard to the Madras and Bombay Forces in the Field, this generous feeling towards the defenceless People, he can from Official Reports speak as confidently respecting them as he can relatively to the Bengal Troops, whose kindly considerate attention on this point he has had constant occasion to observe with admiration. The sentiment thus indulged by the different parts of the Combined Army has its reward in the Gratitude manifested by a vast Population to every Detachment that moves thro' Central India.

His Lordship, therefore, desires to include the whole of His Majesty's and the Hon'ble Company's Forces in India in the Warm Tribute which he hereby offers to their Merits; and he trusts all Portions and Descriptions of those Forces will believe in the earnestness of his Parting Prayer for their Welfare.

JAMES NICOL, Adj. Genl. of the Army.

**Rumour.**—A rumour of a horrible nature has been floating about for several days past, not adverted to in any of the Papers, and which we notice now with the view that it may meet with such public and decided contradiction as to put a stop to its farther progress and quiet people's minds: It was alleged, on no authority whatever that we are aware of, that nine Europeans had been murdered, some where down the river near Mayapore, and that their heads had been cut off. The latter part of the story having some resemblance to the affair in the district of Kishnagur lately noticed in our paper, the rumour may possibly have taken its rise from that; but at all events it carries falsehood on the face of it. Since writing the above, we have heard another edition of the story; viz. That two Men's head were seen floating down the River, (and probably bodies also, which considering the funeral rites of the Hindoos, can excite no surprise.) All we know for fact, is, that the dead body of a Native was found in the fields near the Old Powder Mills; but without the head being cut off or any other marks of violence.

**South America.**—By the PRINCESS CHARLOTTE, which arrived here a few days ago, from London via Valparaiso, letters we understand, have been received overland from Lima, announcing some important particulars regarding the situation of the contending parties in Peru. This intelligence corresponds with the unfavourable aspect of affairs according to the latest accounts from that quarter, by the way of New South Wales; which predicted, that Lima would certainly fall into the hands of the Royalists. According to the Letters above referred to, La Serna has taken Lima and San Martin has in consequence been compelled to retire to the fortress of Callao. Lord Cochrane the Commander of the Chilean Squadron, has gone on shore, and is supposed to have retired, at least for a time, from active service.—Harris.

**Ship David Scott.**

We have very very great pleasure in being obligingly made the channel of submitting the following gratifying correspondence to the public.—The DAVID SCOTT is a noble Bombay-built ship of 800 tons, and will leave this about the middle of next month. Her accommodations, we understand, are excellent; and of Captain Bunyon's qualification it is needless for us to say a word, since the subjoined is ample testimony in their favour:—

*David Scott, Sanger Roads, Dec. 16, 1823.*

MY DEAR SIR,—I feel great pleasure in communicating to you the enclosed, and I avail myself of this opportunity of expressing to you my particular thanks, for the great kindness and attention I have experienced from you through the whole course of our voyage; and with the most sincere good wishes for your future welfare, I remain, my dear Sir, your faithful servant,

R. HENRY BLOSSET.

*Captain Bunyon, Commander of the David Scott.*

DEAR SIR,—Being on the eve of separation from each other, after a voyage protracted by adverse circumstances to a greater length of time than usual, we feel it to be only an act of justice to return you our warmest thanks for your kind attentions and gentlemanly conduct towards us; and we request at your acceptance of our most hearty good wishes for your future success and happiness.

R. Henry Blosset; J. H. Harrington; W. H. Perkins, Lieut-Col., Major Smithwaite; Mrs. Sanford; Welby Northmore, Chaplain; Geo. Wm. Crawford, Chaplain; R. Arnold, Chaplain; Francis T. Kirchhoffer, Chaplain; John James Pemberton; Edw. Simons, Capt.; James Fisher; J. W. O. Stephen; R. B. Hamilton; J. N. Macsaine, Cadet; Hugh Fraser, J. Thomson, P. Humfray, Wm. Jackson; M. W. Gilmore; C. Pickering; W. C. J. Lewin; G. Smithwaite.

DEAR SIR,—Allow me to express my warmest thanks for your very gratifying letter and its enclosure, and at the same time to assure you that the pleasure I experienced on the receipt of them has not a little been enhanced by the channel through which it was conveyed.

Your acceptance of my best wishes for your welfare and happiness will confer an additional obligation on your obliged and faithful servant,  
To Sir H. Blosset, &c. &c.

GEORGE BUNYON.

*LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, David Scott, Sanger Roads, Dec. 16, 1823.*

It is with feelings of peculiar gratification I have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your very handsome testimony of approbation.

The desire of pleasing, which I trust has never been wanting on my part, has, I am sure, on your's ever been met with a wish of being satisfied; and although our passage has been tedious, its unavoidable delays have been encountered with patience, which I regret should have been so often called into exercise.

May I beg the favour of your acceptance of my sincerest thank and most cordial wishes for the welfare and happiness of you all.  
I have the honour to remain, your very faithful servant,

*To the Hon'ble Sir H. Blosset, &c. &c. &c.*

GEORGE BUNYON



# ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

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## Nice Distinction.

To the Editor of the Journal.

SIR,

Dr. Johnson tells us that when Pope supplied the prologue to Cato, which contains the lines—

"Britons! attend; be worth like this approv'd,"

"And shew you have the virtue to be moved;"

he first wrote "Britons arise;" but that Addison's timidity could not admit any phrase in those violent party times which might be construed into a call on the people to rise, and the more tame and innocent verb was substituted.

It would be prudent in you to take equal care of invendos and strained meanings, for I see the Writers in JOHN BULL gravely assert that you "have called upon the ARMY OF BENGAL to stand by you in your attempts to restore the Liberty of the Press!" The Editor of the ASIATIC JOURNAL is already sufficiently alarmed upon this topic. He is even now miserable from anxiety about the evils which must result from the Native Newspapers; from which, the Serampore Missionaries, who are upon the spot, and who are remarkably cautious discreet men, assert distinctly and publicly that no evil whatever has been experienced. When the news of the JOURNALIST'S calling upon the Bengal Army to stand by him reaches London, the man must be in the highest enjoyment of what "that admirable novel Pen-Owen," declares to be one of the greatest gratifications to an Englishman, viz. "the affectionate assurance of his standing upon a mine ready to be exploded." What a series of gratifications are in store for this sapient person, when he receives his files of the CALCUTTA BULL for the two last months!

Jan. 10, 1823.

PAPIRIUS.

## Mr. Mack's Third Lecture.

At the former Lecture, the subject of Heat had been introduced, and its effects on matter by causing expansion, fluidity, vaporization and ignition explained by experiments.

On Tuesday last the subject was continued—the 2d part of it being the communication and propagation of Caloric.

The relative conducting power of metals and glass was indicated by the relative times in which bars of copper, brass, lead, iron and glass, when heated at one end, caused phosphorus placed at the other to inflame.

The slow communication of heat was explained by a tube in which some coloured water was put, and the tube filled with plain water; when heat was applied to the latter it boiled without discolouring the other, but when heat was applied at the bottom the coloured fluid rose and mingled with the other. In this manner water may be made to boil over ice for some time without melting it.

**Radiation, &c. of heat.** Two metallic mirrors were placed about 12 feet apart—a hot ball was placed in the focus of one and caused the mercury in a thermometer placed in the focus of the other to rise from 72° to 91°—2d, a pan of fire in one focus set fire to gunpowder in the other on which a bit of phosphorus was placed. Similar effects have been produced at 20 feet distance.—3d, a canister of hot water in one focus seemed to affect an air thermometer in the other. The Professor was not able to procure a differential thermometer for this experiment.

Cold seems to radiate in the same manner. If a plate of ice be placed in one focus, a thermometer in the other immediately falls. This is explained to be caused by the radiation of caloric from the thermometer.

Metallic mirrors do not become warm, though they reflect nearly the whole of the heat; but if coated with glue, paint, &c. they become hot, while the reflection is scarcely perceptible.

Tea pots of white metal, (silver, &c.), are superior to China ones, from retaining the heat longer. Polished metallic surfaces have low radiating powers.

From the different conducting powers of bodies arise the sensations of heat and cold when we touch them.

The salts used for freezing water were mentioned, the most common of which are sal ammoniac, salt-petre, and salt; and Mr. Leslie's method of freezing water by combining the powers of evaporation and absorption, by means of the air pump. Dr. Franklin's experiment of placing different coloured rags upon snow, to show that black absorbs most heat, and that white reflects it.

Count Rumford's experiments on the conducting powers of several substances, used as clothing, mentioned—Hare's fur and Eider down the warmest—the compression of fluorescent substances render them still inferior conductors of caloric—uses of snow in preserving plants, &c.

**Dew.**—Mr. Wells's observations noticed. Dew is never formed upon any substance till its temperature is reduced below that of the atmosphere. Those bodies which collect most dew suffer the greatest reduction of temperature. More dew is deposited upon glass than upon metals, &c.

The cold which accompanies dew precedes instead of following the production of it. Most dew is deposited in clear and calm nights. In cloudy weather, particularly when there is wind there is seldom much difference between the temperature of the grass and that of the air, but a clear interval generally produces a reduction of temperature on the surface of the ground.

**Hygrometers and Hygrometers** are instruments for showing the presence of water in the air. Those which are made of animal or vegetable substances soon lose their power of action from alternate expansion and contraction, &c. The only one which can be depended upon is Daniell's, one of which was exhibited. It shews the constituent temperature of the moisture in the atmosphere by its precipitation upon a cold surface; comparing this with the temperature of the atmosphere. The difference furnishes a datum for calculating the quantity of vapour in a given quantity of air, and affords indications usefully applicable to predicting change of weather.

**Comparative quantities of Caloric which bodies contain, &c.**—The relative quantities of Caloric which different bodies in the same state require to raise them to the same thermometric temperature is called their *specific Caloric*, and those which require most are said to have the greatest capacity for Caloric. Equal quantities of hot and cold water were mixed to shew that equal volumes of the same fluid give the mean temperature after mixture; but when hot mercury was mixed with cold water the resulting temperature was less than the mean, showing that the capacity of mercury for Caloric is less than that of water.

**Steam** is applied to the warming of buildings, heating water for dye houses, &c. drying gunpowder and other articles, &c; giving an impulse to machinery; drawings, to explain the principles upon the following Steam Engines acted were exhibited, viz. Savary's, Newcomen's and Watts's. The first raised water by the force of steam, the second by the pressure of the atmosphere. Mr. Watts's principal improvements consisted, first, in the condensing the steam in a separate vessel instead of injecting it into the cylinder; 2d, in protecting the cylinder from cold air, &c. by inclosing it in a case filled with Steam or hot air; 3rd, in giving an impulse to the piston by the force of steam both in ascending and descending. A working model of a Steam Engine was exhibited.

**Sources of Caloric.**—1. The sun's rays concentrated in the focus of a lens or concave mirror will set fire to combustibles. 2. The mixture of sulphuric acid with water. 3. Friction, &c. wood rubbed upon wood, a nail may be hammered till it be so hot as to light a match. The friction of wheels has set a waggon on fire. Heat may also be produced by compressing air. An instrument about 4 inches long, called a pocket condensing syringe, answers the purpose of a tinder box, a single stroke of the piston condensing the flame sufficiently to inflame tinder.

**Another source of Caloric is Electricity.**—Heat is by some considered as a peculiar fluid which they term Caloric; others suppose it to be caused by the vibratory motion of the particles of matter.

**Portuguese Paper from Macao.**

It is our duty to collect together, for the information and pleasure of our Readers, whatever Intelligence may be procurable from every quarter of the globe:—but there is no branch of this that we have felt more pride in introducing to their notice than the progressively increasing influence of the Press in Asia. In continuation of this agreeable task, we have now the pleasure to bring before them an account of a new Paper established in Macao, under the title of "A ABELHA DA CHINA" or THE CHINESE BEE, a parcel of which has been sent us by a Friend and Correspondent in that quarter. The Paper itself is beautifully printed, and got up in a very attractive form and manner; and if it continues to be conducted with the same spirit with which it has been commenced, it is likely, we think, to become extremely popular.

In presenting Translations of a few of the articles in the two first Numbers of this Paper, we should state that the occasional explanatory remarks included within inverted commas, are from the pen of the Friend to whom we are indebted for the Translations themselves; and we believe they will be found deserving credit for their accuracy.

CHINESE BEE.—No. I.—FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1822.

HOC TEMPORE  
OBSEQUIUM AMICOS VERITAS ODIUM PARIT.

MACAO.

Terentius.

The Loyal Senate having confided to us the Editorship of this Paper, we conceive it one of our first duties to detail frankly and truly the motives which accelerated the glorious event of the 19th of last month; the memorable day on which the Inhabitants of Macao first hoisted the Standard of Liberty, and tore from its base the Colossal Despotism which had for so many years oppressed them. We confess however that this task is superior to our strength, but we will not the less on that account endeavour to contribute our mite to the justification of an act which put an end to an arbitrary power, and consolidated the rights with the duties of the citizen, by installing with their common accord amidst the salutes and incessant shouts of public joy, a Provisional Government, the which very shortly after its installation has given abundant proofs of its patriotism, zeal, and activity for the national interest.

The energy of the Inhabitants of this City, (always faithful to their Beloved Sovereign, but friendly to good order,) has clearly manifested on this occasion that it is not alone to the notes of the trumpet, amidst the clang of arms, brandishing the sword, and routing phalanxes of enemies, that the love of our country, our daring, or our courage may be shown. These virtues equally delight in peace, and in peace also they can call blooming and unfading laurels to wreath the brows of their heroes. The peace and good order with which the Inhabitants of Macao conducted themselves on this day, will be an eternal monument in after times to their honour.

Their entire want of confidence in the Government, and the insolence with which its system was conducted, by means not only improper, but disgraceful to the Portuguese name, were the principal causes of representations being made at different times to the Senate, of the necessity existing for a new Government, which might confine and check the impetuous torrent of evils, which threatened our commerce; for a Government in short, which could prevent an inevitable and rapidly approaching anarchy; all around us but too forcibly portending the most fatal consequences, should things remain as they were, that is, should that one of our Functionaries retain his place, whose exclusion was demanded as the front and origin, from whence spring all the evils, which oppressed our commerce, and through it our whole community.

["The "Functionary" here so pointedly alluded to, is, we suspect the "Ministro," an Officer of high rank at Macao, something in short like a King's Commissioner, and whose authority in civil affairs sometimes supercedes that of the Governor. After this denomination by his fellow citizens, all attempts to add to his honours might be vain, he who could make himself infamous at Macao, must be so indeed, and we know of no villainy which has not been imputed to this monster:—The ruin of the house of Beale and Co. (if we do not mistake the name) is one of the crimes laid to his charge. We conceive it idle to remark here that agriculture, the source of all national riches, as well as manufactures, are unknown in this country, "on account of their confined situation, and the vigilant and insolent surveillance exercised over them by the Chinese."]"]

Hence commerce becomes the only resource of this small portion of the United Kingdom, (of Portugal, Brasil and Algarves), and even this at every moment diminished, by the interference which this Functionary pretended to exercise in it, permitting or tolerating the entrance and departure of Foreign Ships with contraband goods, to the prejudice of the National Revenues, and that of the Merchants of this City; who found their commerce in a state of stagnation, while that of foreigners was flourishing on its ruins. All this and more, which we omit to mention, had irritated the minds of our Citizens, who having made their last representation on the 17th of last month, and on the 18th elected a deputation of thirteen inhabitants, chosen from among themselves, resolved to convocate a General Council on the 19th, in which, by a majority of voices, it was determined that two members should be publicly elected to arrange our future Government, the before-mentioned individual being excluded from any participation in it by the general voice of the public.

Looking back to the disgust with which the first news of our happy regeneration (in Portugal) was received, to the system of espionage established on the Gazettes from Lisbon; when we recall the petty reprehensions, the continued menaces, with which many of our truest patriots were vexed, when we say that to have adhered to the cause of the Nation was to irritate Government; when we reflect in short on all that has happened, it will, we conceive, without difficulty be allowed that the affected adhesion shown at length to the public cause, was any thing but real patriotism.

["This passage would rather appear to point to the Governor as the obnoxious individual, but the powers exercised by the Minister were so extensive that they will equally apply to him."]"]

We will not now enter into a critical examination of the events which preceded the installation of the actual Government, it will be sufficient to refer to the proceedings of the following Sessions; which will serve as an instructive proem to our readers, who, after reading and reflecting on them, will be enabled to do justice to our remarks, remembering always that our pen will never be prostituted to venality or adulation, and that while we shall willingly submit to the judicious criticisms of the well-informed, we shall pass by in silence the strictures of the ignorant or of those who may inconsiderately attack us.

To transmit to our fellow citizens the energy of the inhabitants of Macao in shaking off the yoke of oppression, the zeal and activity of the wise Provincial Government which we have installed, to instruct our fellow citizens in their duties and their rights, and finally to point out the improvements of which our Community and City may be susceptible, are the duties which we propose to execute. We shall not forget to communicate intelligence of such foreign and domestic events as may occur, especially those relating to Portugal, and we request at the same time that all friends to their country will assist us with their talents, that we may thereby be better enabled to continue our task until we resign it to abler hands.



Monday, January 13, 1833.

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## Supreme Court.

CALCUTTA, FRIDAY, JANUARY 10, 1833.

Golamee Chunder was this day put to the bar, charged with having on the 23d of December last, feloniously stolen, taken, and carried away from the house of one Ramchunder, situate at Burrah Bazar, in Calcutta, five Promissory Notes of the Commercial Bank, Nos. 4290, 6509, 5513, 5769 and 5505, of one hundred Rupees each, several other small Notes of the value of one hundred and fifty seven Rupees, and four hundred Rupees in silver. The examination for the prosecution was taken by the Hon'ble Chief Justice; Messrs. Fergusson and Taiton pleaded in behalf of the prisoner.

The Prosecutor stated that on the 23d of December last, about one o'clock in the afternoon, having occasion to go out on some business, he had carefully locked his shop, that on returning in the evening he found the lock of the door broke, on proceeding into the shop, he found his chest broken open, and on examination missed the abovementioned Notes and Cash. He gave notice of the circumstance to the Thannadar that night, and on the following morning went to the Commercial Bank to stop the payment of the Notes—he produced a memorandum of the numbers of the Notes in question, which he had copied from his books, a short time after a peon came to him from the Commercial Bank and told him that his Notes No. 4290, 6509, 3513, 5769, and 5505 of 100 Rupees each, had been presented by Tarrachand Paul, who was then waiting at the Bank. Ramchunder went to the Bank immediately, and thence together with Tarrachand Paul to the Police. It appeared in evidence that Tarrachand Paul, who is a Shroff, got these five Notes from one Lollbeharry Sain (also a Shroff) in part payment of a Note for 1,000 Rupees, who in his turn received them from the prisoner, the Notes were identified by all parties, all the witnesses testified as to the prisoner being a man of some property, having been some years established as a money broker, and as far as they knew an honest man.

The Prisoner in his defence stated that on the evening of the 23d of December last a man came to him requiring Cash for five notes of 100 rupees each, stating that his name was Gopaul, that he lived at Hathoola and was Sykar to Mr. Brewer the Attorney, who wanted change to make presents to his servants on the approaching holidays. The prisoner continued: he then discounted the notes, entered their numbers in his books, and caused the stranger to endorse them, he signed his name as Gopaul Baboo; on the remark being made to him that Baboo was an unusual way of endorsing bills, he subjoined the name Meekerger—the next day Dec. the 24th, at about 3 o'clock, the prisoner together with his papers was seized, and as Baboo Gopaul Meekerger, (the person from whom he got the Notes,) could no where be found, was committed for trial. Several witnesses for the Defendant, among which was the prisoner's brother and a respectable Shroff, who lived near him and had known him for fifteen years, attested the truth of the prisoner's assertions, and declared that so far from his being the person who had committed the robbery alleged to him, he had not been out of his shop from the evening of the 23d Dec. to the morning of the 24th.

Several witnesses in favour of the prisoner remained yet to be examined, when the Hon'ble Chief Justice addressing himself to the Jury, observed that he had really heard nothing to throw suspicion on the prisoner, and that it would only be detaining them uselessly to go any farther with the evidence in his defence, he thought they had heard quite sufficient to enable them to determine on their verdict. The prisoner was a Shroff in the habit of changing bills, and it was nothing extraordinary that the Notes in question should have got into his possession, his defence was feasible, and the witnesses in his favour numerous, they had all declared the prisoner was an upright man, and above the want of being forced to commit such an action, it now

remained for the Jury to determine on their verdict, which they accordingly did without leaving their seats.—Not Guilty—The prisoner was then discharged.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 11, 1833.

The Judges having taken their seats on the bench, Solyman (a Greek) was put to the bar, charged with the wilful murder of one Dowlaath, late a Police Chokeydar in the town of Calcutta.

The Examination for the Prosecution was taken by Sir Francis Macnaghten.

MEHERULLAH, the first witness called, stated, that on the 24th November last, about eight o'clock in the evening, as deceased together with himself had just left the Tannah at the corner of Doomtollah to go their rounds, they met two men dressed in the costume of the Turks; the Prisoner, who was one of them, in passing chanced to be jostled by the deceased, upon which the Prisoner turned round and asked deceased who he was? he replied "a Chokeydar," the Prisoner asked "where is your badge" the answer was he had not yet received it from the Police; hereupon the Prisoner took hold of a stick the deceased had in his hand, but on his companion speaking a few words to him which witness did not understand, he again relinquished it. Dowlaath on feeling his stick released, gave the prisoner two or three blows with it, which the other (having no stick) returned with his fist, knocked off his turban, seized him by the hair with his left hand, and with his right hand thrust his knife in the deceased's left side, who immediately dropped—Ghoohur, another Chokeydar who came from the Tannah at that moment, exclaimed "Dowlaath is wounded," hereupon the prisoner ran after Ghoohur who was returning to the Tannah; the other Greek, whose name was Hussain ran towards the Turret-bazar, witness pursued the latter, took him prisoner, and brought him to the Tannah; on some questions being put to him by the Jury he farther stated that deceased had been a Police peon for ten or eleven months, that he had no badge during the whole of that time, no mark of distinction but a black turban, witness and Ghoohur had no badges either. On being asked what sort of a stick the deceased had made use of in beating the Prisoner, he described it as being about a yard long and nearly the thickness of a man's wrist.

ROBERT HEBERLEY, Clerk to the Police Office, and CAMIL Thannadar were called to swear to the identity of the knives produced, as having belonged to the prisoner and his companion.

Naw Cowan, the next witness, remembered the knives produced, he had delivered them over to CAMIL, one of them witness had taken out of the prisoner's hand when he was about seven cubits from the tannah, prisoner was pursuing Ghoohur to the tannah at the time—witness did not notice any blood on the knife.

GHOOHUR Chokeydar remembered the prisoner, had been acquainted with Dowlaath also, all he knew of the case was that on the aforesaid evening having heard a noise in the street he had gone to see what was the matter, found four or five persons standing together, on approaching he saw the prisoner holding Dowlaath by the hair with his left hand, and with his right stabbing the deceased in the left side, the Prisoner's companion fled, and was pursued by Meherullah, while witness himself being chased by Solyman returned to the tannah, witness did not observe any knife in the prisoner's hand when pursued by him.

Dr. McCowan stated that he had examined the body of the deceased, the knife had entered between the fourth and fifth ribs on the left side and penetrated the heart, there was no doubt of its having caused Dowlaath's death.

The Prisoner in his defence said that having together with his companion spent the day on leave from the ship to which they were attached, they had both drunk too freely, but though intoxicated, were proceeding down to the Ghaut very quietly,

when they were met by two men who challenged them; not knowing they were Chokeydars, as they had no badges on, the prisoner's companion questioned their authority. Dowlath in return began to abuse him, upon which the prisoner interfered, Dowlath then struck the prisoner several blows with a heavy stick which with his fist he returned, but Meherulla and the deceased at last succeeded in binding both him and his companion, and took them away to the Tannah. Here ended the Prisoner's defence; on being asked if he had any witnesses to call, he replied that he was a stranger in this country, and had not a soul to call on.

Sir FRANCIS MACNAGHTEN in summing up the evidence observed that though the witnesses produced had plainly proved the prisoner was the person who had killed the Chokeydar, much had notwithstanding appeared throughout the evidence which fortunately for him argued in his favour. His Lordship in the first place reverted to the prisoner's statement of his having been intoxicated at the time, which he observed ought in charity to be admitted; in the second place the Chokeydar was not clothed with any distinction of authority, which, he observed, considering the man had been in that capacity for the space of eleven months, was a degree of neglect not to be conceived. If the Jury believed the evidence of Meherulla, which was given in the fairest manner possible, they would perceive that the prisoner had received ample provocation; the witness had said, that Dowlath was the first to strike, and that with a stick which was indeed a mortal weapon, the act was unmanly and inhuman; the gentlemen of the Jury were probably aware of the description of stick the Chokeydars and Police Peons were in the habit of carrying; he felt assured that such a stick handled by a powerful arm, would knock a person's brains out at the first blow. If the gentlemen of the jury admitted of this brutal treatment being sufficient provocation, and they considered that those people were in the constant habit of carrying their knives or daggers (which they really were) about with them, then if as appeared in evidence the prisoner in a state of exasperation drew his knife immediately and plunged it in the heart of the deceased, the act could hardly be called murder. His Lordship would recall to the memory of the Jury, a similar case on which he believed some of the gentlemen then present had given their verdict. The learned Judge then stated the case of a Cook attached to an English ship lying at Diamond Harbour; the Cook had some controversy with one of the Crew, while on deck, on going below afterwards, the controversy was renewed, and lastly the Sailor struck the Cook a blow with his fist, the latter having his knife about him stabbed the man of which he died in two or three days. In this case, which was very similar to the one before them, the Jury returned a verdict of Manslaughter. In the present instance, it would be very difficult to prove that the prisoner had a design against a man he never saw before, it would be absurd to suppose such a thing; that the man carried a knife about him was nothing unusual, as he had already observed it was a constant custom amongst those people, how far it was right in the Police to suffer such a thing in this country, was another consideration, but as long as it is not thought illegal for those people to carry such weapons, they could not in conscience accuse the prisoner of any design in so doing. His Lordship then reverted to the conduct of Police peons in general, expressing his apprehensions they but too frequently exceeded the bounds of their duty; he thought that rather than interfere with people who might be in a state of intoxication, if they did not actually break the peace, they ought to give way to them. In this instance it was difficult to say who was the aggressor, but certain it is that the deceased had struck the first blow, for this had been declared by the evidence for the prosecution, and this with the knowledge that the Prisoner had not a similar weapon to defend himself with, he consequently had recourse to the only weapon within his power and killed the man,—had he done this deliberately, it would cease to be Manslaughter, but the heat of blood he was in from the inhuman treatment he had received, distinguished it entirely from Murder.

The Jury, without retiring, returned, a Verdict—Guilty of *Manslaughter*.

### Shipping Arrivals.

#### CALCUTTA.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	From Whence	Left
Jan. 11	Mercur	French	J. L. Chevalant	Batavia	Oct. 8
11	Entrepreneur	French	D. Rognesail	Bordeaux	July 17

### Stations of Vessels in the River.

#### CALCUTTA, JANUARY 10, 1823.

At Diamond Harbour.—H. C. S. COLDSTREAM,—ROZALIA, (P.) proceeded down,—PRINCESS CHARLOTTE, (McKean), PRINCESS CHARLOTTE, (Lamb), and KHEBANK JATTIE, (Dutch), inward-bound, remain.

Kedgerie.—GENERAL LECOR, (P.) BORDELAIR, (F.) outward-bound, remain.

New Anchorage.—H. C. Ships GENERAL HEWITT, THAMES, WARREN HASTINGS, for England via Coast and Madras, in two or three days; MARCHIONESS OF ELV, and WINCHELSEA.

### Passengers.

Passengers per Dutch Ship KRIMBANG JATTIE, Captain C. McLean, from Penang to Calcutta.—Mrs. Scott and Child, Messrs. Scott, Deans, and Wilson; and Dr. Vignalet.

### Marriage.

On the 8th instant, at the Old Roman Catholic Church, Mr. STEPHEN PATERS, to Miss FANNY PELLEGRIN.

### Births.

On the 8th instant, Mrs. H. A. ELLIOTT of a Son.

At Bombay, on the 19th ultimo, the Lady of JOHN SANDWICH, Esq. of a Son.

At Dacca, on the 7th ultimo, Mrs. C. LEONARD, of a Son and Heir.

### Deaths.

On the 3d instant, Mr. DANIEL TEMPLETON, aged 58 years and 10 months.

At Berelly, on the 20th ultimo, after a lingering illness of 5 months, which was borne with true Christian fortitude, Mrs. ELIZA MCCUTCHEEN, leaving a disconsolate Husband and 5 Children, and a wide circle of Friends to lament her irreparable loss. She was an affectionate wife, a tender mother, and a warm friend.

On the 9th of October, at his Father's house, Bally Ghant Road, of a fever and inflammation in the Lungs and Bowels, Master FREDERICK BARFOOT, aged 11 years and 5 months.

At Aungmyab, on the 8th ultimo, of a bilious fever, SARAH ANNE, the Wife of Captain JOHN MORGAN, of the 12th Regiment of Madras Native Infantry, and Major of Brigade to a Division of the Nizam's Troops.

On the 13th ultimo, near the Village of Hewa, whilst on the march with his Battalion from Sholapoor to Poonah, Captain WILLIAM NASH, of the 2d Battalion 10th Regiment of Native Infantry. In him the service has lost an active and zealous Officer, and his brother Officers will long lament the loss of a companion and friend justly endeared to them by his mild and conciliating manner.

At Bassadore, on the 6th of November, Assistant Surgeon JOHN TOD, Vaccinator, Poonah Division of the Army.

At Bombay, on the 19th ultimo, Mrs. BAR RA, Wife of R. T. BARRA, Esq. aged 37 years.

At Bombay, on the 20th ultimo, Mrs. MEALL, Wife of Major MEALL.

### CALCUTTA BAZAR RATES, JANUARY 11, 1823.

	BUY...	SELL
Remittable Loans, .....	Rs. 23 0	23 0
Unremittable ditto, .....	15 4	14 12
Bills of Exchange on the Court of Directors, for 12 Months, dated 30th of June 1823, .....	28 0	27 0
Ditto, for 18 Months, dated 30th of April, 1822, .....	26 0	25 0
Bank Shares, .....	6000 0	5800 0
Spanish Dollars, per 100, .....	206 0	205 8
Notes of Good Houses, for 6 Months, bearing Interest, at 5 per cent.		
Government Bills, Discount, .....		at 3-8 per cent.
Loans on Deposit of Company's Paper, for 1 to 3 months, at 2-9 per cent.		